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A CHRISTMAS WELCOME.

BY E. BOND.

Heed not now the falling snow,
Make great fires glow!
Round about the chimney crowd,
With carols loud.
Christmas welcome, Christmas dear,
The happiest day of all the year!

If the winds blow loud without,
Join in their shout!
They do but sing with tempest blast,
"He's come at last!"
To give Him welcome, Christmas dear,
The happiest day of all the year!

Let hospitality be there,
His hoards to share.
And friends around the board appear
From far and near,
To welcome Christmas, Christmas dear,
The kindliest day of all the year!

Bring the cheerful gambols in,
With shout and din!
Bob the apple; run and find,
Though bound and blind.
And singing: Welcome, Christmas dear,
The merriest day of all the year!

Hang the mistletoe on high;
With furtive eye
Turn, before the kiss you share,
To see who's there;
And give your thanks to Christmas dear,
The warmest day of all the year.

And when the jolly day is gone,
And night comes on,
May blessings, more than earth can tell,
Crown each farewell.
And memory tell of Christmas dear,
The happiest day of all the year!

The Mischief-Maker.

By Charles Dickens.

[The following tale was found in an old scrap book where it had been placed more than a score of years ago. It may be published in some of the innumerable editions of the works of Dickens, but we have never seen it if it is. Or it may not be by the great novelist at all, although, as it is well written, and was accredited to him in the scrap book from which it was taken, the only reason to doubt its authenticity lies in the fact—if fact it be—that it is not among the collections of his writings.—EDS. GAZETTE.]

Between the rivers Kistnah and Beeh ma in the Deckhan, surrounded by wild rocky hills, lies the town of Shorapoor, capital of a State of that name, inhabited by a people who have generally been considered lawless, superstitious, and quarrelsome. Of late years they have been more industrious and peaceable, and though still an excitable race, may be said to be advancing in the arts of peace.

It was during a more remote period, when few strangers ever ventured to penetrate the country, that a weary, looking traveler, covered with dust, entered one of the gates, and sat down awhile at the side of a well. He then proceeded to take off his waistband and turban, washed his head and his feet, drank of the cool refreshing water, combed his beard and moustachios, and spreading a small carpet on which he laid his trusty sword, drew from his wallet a small pipe, and a night cap, then seated himself cross-legged, lighted his pipe, and began to look very comfortable indeed.

In the meantime there were not wanting many idle and curious people, who having first at a distance observed the movements of the stranger, approached him nearer and nearer, but seemed to take little notice of the crowd, and appeared absorbed in a sense of his own enjoyment, taking long whiffs of his pipe, and looking as if he had made a considerable progress towards the third heaven.

At length a respectable looking man who had come up, drew nearer than the rest and asked him from whence he had traveled, and whither he was going? What he was seeking in Shorapoor, and whether he was a merchant, or merely came to look about him? But the questions ended in smoke, being answered only by *whiffs*.

Then came another still bolder man, and said, "Sir, the heat is great; be pleased to come with me to my house, and repose yourself there, and I will give you a nice cool place in which you may sleep."

Upon this the stranger drew his pipe from his mouth and replied: "You are extremely kind, good sir, and I am really grateful to you for your proffered hospitality; but the fact is, I don't believe you would wish to have me in your house, did you know what I really am!"

And thus saying, he rolled his eyes about, twisted up his moustachios, stroked his head, and assumed such a mysterious air, that an indescribable terror seized the bystanders; so much so, that in falling hastily back, some of them tumbled down, and others tumbled over them in a very ridiculous manner.

"He's a thief," whispered one. "Or a Thug," said another. "Or an evil spirit in the form of a man," observed a fourth. In the events, doubtless, he took like one who has *killed another?*"

In short the alarm became general, and several deemed it prudent, first to sneak off, and then to take to their heels. A few, however, of the bolder spirits kept their ground, and seeing that the stranger did nothing but take long whiffs from his pipe, sending the smoke peacefully curling over his beard and moustachio out of both his nostrils, they regained their confidence, and began to think that after all he might be some important personage, who could tell? So after a little pushing and elbowing among themselves, a man was thrust forward, under an idea that something might come of it; but no, the stranger appeared as ever.

Then another, who had screwed up his courage to that point, boldly advanced and thus spoke—

"Do pray, sir, tell us who upon earth you may be?" No answer.

Then the man who had offered a sleeping place in his house chimed in and said, "Aye, sir, do let us know who or what you may be? I assure you we are none of us at all afraid of you." And with these words he twisted up his moustachios, and tried to look as fierce and bold as possible, while his knees were knocking together, and his heart fluttering all the while. On a repetition of these questions, however, by both these men, the stranger, with infinite gravity, took the pipe from his mouth, and thus spoke,

"Are you not too much frightened to hear?"

The runaways, however, had departed, and those left behind seemed more determined not to follow them; more especially as the stranger had made no sign as if he would draw his sword; neither did they think he looked at all so horrible now. They therefore, one and all called out, "No!" we are not a bit afraid, let us hear!"

"Well then," exclaimed the stranger, taking a long puff at his pipe, "strange as it may appear to you all, my name is Mischief Maker! In short I am very extraordinary, whatever I do, wherever I go, wherever I am, I *always* create mischief, I always *have* created mischief and shall continue to do so to the very end of my life!" And upon this he rolled his eyes, and puffed away at his pipe harder than ever.

"Oh, is this all," cried the party, "is this all?"

"For the matter of *that*," said an active little man with twinkling eyes, "you need be under no uneasiness whatever. I defy you to invent more mischief here than we have already, for we are all more or less at enmity with our neighbors; and as our fathers and grandfathers were the same, we conclude it must be owing to something that can't be changed; for instance, the air or water of our town; so set your heart at rest, and come along with us, and we'll take care of you."

"Well," rejoined the stranger, "I am very glad indeed to hear what you say of your own town; for, to be candid with you, it's exactly what I heard of you all as I came along, and this made me think that in a place where all were mischief makers and busy-bodies already, I could have nothing to do but (for once in my life) live in peace. However, don't trust me—that's all I have to say—and if any evil arises from my visit, turn me out, and I'll seek a home elsewhere."

An old Brahmin had come up in time to hear this avowal. "'Tis very strange," said the wise man. "This fellow is surely a magician, and may set all the rocks of Shorapoor dancing and tumbling about our ears some day. Turn him instantly away, or it may be worse for us all."

"No, no," shouted the multitude. "That would be inhospitable. Let him remain, and we shall soon see what he can do."

The little active man now came forward again, and said slyly, "Sir, if you really *are* such a mischief-maker as you describe yourself to be, suppose you were to give us a little specimen of your power—just some trifling matter to judge by."

"What, *now?*" said the stranger.

"Aye, *now!*" exclaimed all; and the sooner the better."

"Well, let it be so," said he; "let me put up my things, and come along!" And with this he arose, packed up, girded on his sword, and strode majestically forward, followed by a crowd continually increasing as they advanced further into the town.

"Now, don't push or press upon me so much," said the stranger; "but observe what I do and watch the consequences." So they let him proceed, and as he advanced, they soon perceived that he was forming some deep plan, particularly as he paused every now and then, with his forefinger between his teeth, and nodded and wagged his head as much as to say, "I have it!" Upon which he made straight for a shop kept by a man who sold flour and such like things, and, accosting the dealer with great civility, asked whether he had any *honey?* "That I have sir," replied the shopkeeper, "plenty, fresh from the comb, only taste it, and I'm sure you'll buy. Here, sir, look at this beautiful jar, full of the finest honey that was ever seen in Shorapoor."

"It looks well," replied the stranger, dipping his hand in, "and does not taste amiss;" saying which he gave his finger a careless kind of a shake, but he knew right well what he was about, as a little lump stuck upon the outer wall.

"It really is good," said the Mischief-Maker. "Give me a small pot of it, that I may take it home to my children."

While the shopkeeper was filling a small new pot, over which he tied a fresh green leaf, the people who had been following, came up and said, "Sir, you are only make game of us; you are going to give a proof of what you said. What mischief is there in buying a little pot of honey?"

"Be quiet, my good people, and content yourselves for a couple of minutes, while I get my change, and put my purchase in a safe place, and you will soon see something—wait here, and I'll be back to you directly." The Mischief-Maker vanished in an instant!

Now it happened that this shop was a mere shed of a place, projecting into the street, from the wall on which the honey had been thrown; nor had the tempting bait been long there before it was smelt out by a large hungry fly, which had been spending many fruitless hours buzzing about the dealer's jar, so carefully as it always covered. Here was a glorious opportunity for a fine supper, and down he came upon it with eager appetite—without looking about him as he ought—for over his head, under the cover of the wall, among old chinks and cobwebs, there dwelt a wily, dust-colored lizard, who enjoyed a fly beyond everything else in the world, and had been particularly unsuccessful in fly-catching all day. Watching, therefore, till the fly had buried his mining apparatus deep in the honey, he crept down quietly, looking as like a bit of old plaster as possible, but for those bright eyes of his, which in his eagerness for the capture, were intently fixed upon the fly. Unlucky wight! Little did he think that those very eyes had attracted the attention of a fine tabby cat, who but a few minutes before, with blinking eyes, presented a perfect picture of contentment, but now roused by a sudden temptation, was crouching stealthily down as she beheld the lizard, for whom she had so often watched in vain. Down stole the lizard—on stole the cat; so that here at the same moment were three creatures so bent upon indulgence that they never even thought of looking about them! But were these three all the parties to be engaged? Alas! no. There was a sworn enemy of the cat's approaching also (under cover of a large basket,) in the shape of a mischievous white dog, kept by a very quarrelsome man on the other side of the street. This dog was the terror of all the cats in the neighborhood, and, most of all, of the flour-dealer's, so that no sooner did he see the cat, than he pounced upon her, and shrieked and howled in a manner that brought out the dealer and his wife, and all the people in the street, who cried out "Shame, thou coward, and son of a coward, who would attack a youth with only a stick in his hand, and you armed with a sword! Shame on you! Its just like you rascally Hindoo fellows, who pretend to be soldiers, and are as much like soldiers as that poor cat. Why don't you try me!"

"Why not?" replied the man. "Do you think I'm afraid of such a bully as you? Come on, you wounded, and I'll show you what difference there is between a cat and a Hindoo!"

Upon this the soldier drew his sword, and both began to cut at each other in good earnest.

On all this the people cried out, "Murder! Murder!" and a great many soldiers running to the spot, were soon engaged, always attacking the Hindoos, who were on the dog's side, and the Hindoos, the Musselmans, who were on the side of the cat, and wherever a Hindoo and a Musselman were fighting, the Hindoo aided the Hindoo, and the Musselmans the Musselman, and the consequence was the death of many on each side, and the wounding of most of the foolish quarrelsome people engaged.

Of course such a hubbub as this could not be continued long without its being reported to the Rajah, who forthwith has tened from his palace with his body guard and some horsemen, and soon put a stop to this terrible fray, and all the ringleaders were forthwith seized and tied together, and marched off to prison, there to be kept closely confined till the sad business should be fully inquired into, and the cause of so dreadful a riot ascertained, and fixed upon the guilty.

All that night, therefore, were the magistrates and police-officers hard at work listening to evidence, but they did not advance a single step in the business, no, nor for several days after, notwithstanding the great impatience of the Rajah, to whom they could only report from time to time the hearing of nothing but the words, "Cat, Dog,"—"Cat and Dog,"—"Dog and Cat,"—"Dog," "Cat."

A very similar feeling, also, was entertained by the lawyers who were called in, and who, after intense application, declared themselves doubtful, very doubtful—so much was advanced and really to be said and supported by various precedents, both on the side of the cat and of the dog, and, consequently of the owner of the cat, as well as the owner of the dog, and the partizans of the owners of the dog and cat—insomuch that the whole city was split into most determined cat and dog factions, and all strangers that entered the gates were instantly absorbed in the dog and cat vortex, and whirled actually round and round in this terrible fray, which every now and then broke out with fresh fury, notwithstanding all the vigilance of the Rajah's guards. And yet even these valiant heroes were in some degree infected, giving sly cuts at dog or cat men, just as they themselves inclined to support the cat or dog question.

And so matters might have remained, either to the day of the final depopulation of Shorapoor, or Doomsday itself, but for the wise old Brahmin who had given such timely warning to turn out the stranger.

He had in reality been quietly chuckling a little, as many are wont to do who have lived to see their prophecies first despised and then fulfilled, but his heart relenting, he hastened to the palace, and prostrating himself before the Rajah with hands joined together, he thus spoke:

"May I be your sacrifice, O thou cater of mountains and drinker of rivers! I have a petition to make in this matter of the cat and dog!"

"It shall be heard," replied the Rajah. "Thou art a wise man; what dost thou say?—dog—cat—dog and cat, or cat and dog? For my own part, I still reserve my decision, though somewhat inclining to the opinion that the cat caused all the mischief, and for this reason—because if the dog had not seen the cat, he very probably would not have chased her—'out of sight out of mind, being one of the oldest as well as truest proverbs."

"Alas! that I should differ with your Highness"—Brave Falcon, terrible in War—the most valiant of the State—the Tiger of the Country," replied the Prime Minister. "How could that cat help being worried by the dog?—and did not nature give her a right to go where she pleased?"

So the whole Court took at once different sides, and matters might have come to a serious explosion, even within the sacred walls of the palace itself, but for the Brahmin, who again lifted up his voice, and said:

"May it please your Highness! Let me declare to you that it was neither the dog nor the cat that caused all this misery, but the *Fly* and the Honey!"

"The fly and the honey!" The fly and the honey!" exclaimed the astonished Rajah. "What honey and what fly?"

And, as this was a perfectly new idea, the assembly listened with profound attention while the holy man unfolded the true history of the case. His having seen the stranger, and warned the people against him. How accurately he had observed the drop of honey dabbed against the wall. Then the approach of the fly, the sly gilding of the lizard, the wily creeping of the cat, and the stealthy, vindictive movements of the dog—involving all these creatures in much pain and difficulty, and which afterward overspread the city.

"Hold, learned man," cried the Rajah, "thou hast well said; my eyes are opened" and he desired search to be made for the man who had too well earned the title of Mischief-Maker. But he was no where either to be found or heard of, and the poor flour dealer, who stood among the prisoners with a bandaged hand, declared that the villain had not even paid for the honey that caused the whole tumult.

"Well," exclaimed the Rajah, after profound pause, "here now may most plainly be seen a proof—if any such were required—that my subjects only want a pretext, no matter what, to quarrel, and they are sure to go to loggerheads."

I now throw no blame upon either the cat or dog; for each animal followed its own peculiar instinct. The blame and the punishment, too, must light upon the owners of the dog and cat for fighting, and thus inducing others to espouse so ridiculous a quarrel."

And forthwith he ordered all the principal rioters into confinement, saying also to the rest of the people:

Go home now, fools that ye are, and try whether you cannot make up your minds to live in peace with one another. I cannot prevent your keeping cats and dogs, because were I to do so we should be devoured by vermin and exposed to robbery. But this, I tell you, you shall not turn yourselves into cats and dogs for the future with impunity—Depart!" So they all sneaked off, and the active little man whose head somebody had broken, scrached it, and said:

"Only think how well that strange fellow knew us all!"

A CHRISTMAS HYMN.

BY ALFRED DOMMETT.

It was the calm and silent night!
Seven hundred years and fifty-three
Had Rome been growing up to might,
And now was queen of land and sea.
No sound was heard of clashing wars;
Peace brooded o'er the hushed domain:
Apollo, Pallas and Mars,
Held undisturbed their ancient reign,
In the solemn midnight,
Centuries ago!

'Twas in the calm and silent night!
The Senator of haughty Rome
Impatient urged his chariot's flight,
From lordly revel rolling home.
Triumphant arches, gleaming, swell
His breast with thoughts of boundless sway;
What recked the Roman what befell
A paltry province far away,
In the solemn midnight,
Centuries ago!

Within that province far away
Went plodding home a weary boor;
A streak of light before him lay,
Fallen through a half shut stable door
Across his path. He passed, for naught
Told what was going on within.
How keen the stars! his only thought;
The air, how calm, and cold, and thin!
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O strange indifference!—low and high
Drowsed over common joys and cares;
The earth was still but knew not why;
The world was listening—unaware.
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A thousand bells ring out, and throw
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For in that stable lay, new born,
The peaceful Prince of earth and heaven.
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Black Forest Peter.

A Tale Translated from the German for the Pittsburgh "Gazette."

In the Black Forest, where the black firs and the silvery brooks rustle and roar, dwells a clever, industrious people, strong and skillfull as is the natural result of their occupations. On this side the glass blowers and clock makers, yonder the lumbermen. While these wander through the whole world with their clocks and let their bells chime in the streets of the cities, large and small, those raft their mighty logs down the Neckar and Rhine into the North Sea. But these clever and diligent beings are a very superstitious people, and all have their good and bad spirits. Thus the Glass Manikin is a good spirit, four feet high, who shows himself only in a pointed hat with a broad brim, little trowsers and red socks, while the Dutch Michel, on the other side of the forest, is a gigantic broad shouldered fellow in the costume of a raftsman.

Now with these spirits, large and small a young black Forrester had a curious adventure. He was the son of a charcoal burner's widow, Frau Barbara Munk, and was himself already, in spite of being but sixteen years old, a capable charcoal burner. But still he wanted to be something else. He was worried when the glass makers had their merry dances on Sunday and when the rafts men tumbled their hard thalers about in the taverns, especially the stout Ezekiel, the handsome King of the dancing floor and the long Schlurker, with whom the world seemed to go so well, although none quite knew if they really earned their money only by rafting. He longed so to be merry with them—but with his poor earnings! Was there then really no means to get money? His mother, to be sure, told him of the Glass Manikin who had already assisted many a one—but the charm with which to lure him from his forest shades! Neither his mother nor he could recall it: he only knew the beginning.

But as he was a Sunday's child, and that amounts to a great deal with treasure keepers, he thought he would attempt it once any way, and one day, instead of going into the woods, nor stopped until quite breathless, he reached the highest point of the pine hill. "Here," thought he, "the treasure keeper must dwell," and with trembling voice he said: "I wish you a pleasant evening, Master Glassman." All remained quiet, then he began:

Treasurer in greenwoods of pine,
Many hundred years are thine;
Thine are all lands where pine trees grow"—

Then, to his no small terror, he saw the Glass Manikin really and truly peer from behind a tree, but also just as quickly vanish. He did not know the conclusion of the stanza. Sadly, after long waiting, he withdrew and turned homewards.

In his absence of mind he missed his way, and thanked God when he saw in the distance the smoke rising from the chimney of a cottage, in which he found a hospitable welcome. After supper the good people seated themselves about the grandfather, who once more told them of Dutch Michel. That was water for Peter's mill. "Yes, Dutch Michel is lord of the forest. Hundreds of years ago there lived a rich lumberman, who had a thriving, paying business. One evening a gigantic fellow came to him and asked service. With this the master was well enough pleased and soon Michel showed himself to be the best of workmen. Still, after a half year, he thought he had chopped enough wood—he wanted now to see where the logs went to. And unwilling as the Master was, still he had at last to let him glide down the river on a raft towards Holland. The raft went, this time, most uncommonly quick, and as they came to Cologne, Michel said: 'You are stupid people, you raftsmen, the Cologners buy the wood from you for a mere song, and then sell it twice as dear in Holland. We will do that ourselves.' The others were contented. Then they really went on to Holland, where they were paid a quadruple price. Michel divided it. One part to the lumber master, the rest they kept themselves, and then they went on such a spree as was enough to make one blind and deaf. The lumber masters found out nothing of the transaction for a long time; at last, however, the story got out, but the Dutch Michel had disappeared. To this day he carries on his orgies in the pine hills, and every ship that has one of Dutch Michel's logs in it, must go to the bottom. This much, however, is certain, the stout Ezekiel, the long Schlurker, and the King of the Dancing Floor have sold their souls to him. This tale made mischief in the head of the Charcoal Peter, he could scarcely sleep. And as morning dawned he was about to go away dispressed again, when a couple of travelers passed by the cottage singing, and these were the rhymes of their song:

"I stood on the hill where the pine trees grow,
And glanced down into the glen.
Where I saw the fairest that Sun can show,
But I never have seen it again."

Thus the rhyme was found—grow, show. He went into the cottage, bade farewell to the good people and took the back track towards the pine hill. Meditating, he strode forwards, and when at last it was quite dark in the forest, he had found his verse. Its spring into the air, when suddenly a gigantic man in the clothes of a raftsman, stepped out from behind the trees and asked in a gruff voice: "Peter Munk, what dost thou here?" "I was going back home," answered he, hesitatingly. "But that way leads not through the thicket. Speak the truth. Did I not see thee begging of the little one? Luckily thou didst not know the charm. I pity thee, for thou leadest a miserable life." True, it is a miserable life," said Peter sadly. "Well, I have helped many an one already how much dost thou require to start with, speak!" The poor Boor dealer, who stood among the prisoners with a bandaged hand, declared that the villain had not even paid for the honey that caused the whole tumult.

"Well," exclaimed the Rajah, after profound pause, "here now may most plain ly be seen a proof—if any such were required—that my subjects only want a pretext, no matter what, to quarrel, and they are sure to go to loggerheads."

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Thine are all lands where pine trees grow"—

Then, to his no small terror, he saw the Glass Manikin really and truly peer from behind a tree, but also just as quickly vanish. He did not know the conclusion of the stanza. Sadly, after long waiting, he withdrew and turned homewards.

In his absence of mind he missed his way, and thanked God when he saw in the distance the smoke rising from the chimney of a cottage, in which he found a hospitable welcome. After supper the good people seated themselves about the grandfather, who once more told them of Dutch Michel. That was water for Peter's mill. "Yes, Dutch Michel is lord of the forest. Hundreds of years ago there lived a rich lumberman, who had a thriving, paying business. One evening a gigantic fellow came to him and asked service. With this the master was well enough pleased and soon Michel showed himself to be the best of workmen. Still, after a half year, he thought he had chopped enough wood—he wanted now to see where the logs went to. And unwilling as the Master was, still he had at last to let him glide down the river on a raft towards Holland. The raft went, this time, most uncommonly quick, and as they came to Cologne, Michel said: 'You are stupid people, you raftsmen, the Cologners buy the wood from you for a mere song, and then sell it twice as dear in Holland. We will do that ourselves.' The others were contented. Then they really went on to Holland, where they were paid a quadruple price. Michel divided it. One part to the lumber master, the rest they kept themselves, and then they went on such a spree as was enough to make one blind and deaf. The lumber masters found out nothing of the transaction for a long time; at last, however, the story got out, but the Dutch Michel had disappeared. To this day he carries on his orgies in the pine hills, and every ship that has one of Dutch Michel's logs in it, must go to the bottom. This much, however, is certain, the stout Ezekiel, the long Schlurker, and the King of the Dancing Floor have sold their souls to him. This tale made mischief in the head of the Charcoal Peter, he could scarcely sleep. And as morning dawned he was about to go away dispressed again, when a couple of travelers passed by the cottage singing, and these were the rhymes of their song:

"I stood on the hill where the pine trees grow,
And glanced down into the glen.
Where I saw the fairest that Sun can show,
But I never have seen it again."

Thus the rhyme was found—grow, show. He went into the cottage, bade farewell to the good people and took the back track towards the pine hill. Meditating, he strode forwards, and when at last it was quite dark in the forest, he had found his verse. Its spring into the air, when suddenly a gigantic man in the clothes of a raftsman, stepped out from behind the trees and asked in a gruff voice: "Peter Munk, what dost thou here?" "I was going back home," answered he, hesitatingly. "But that way leads not through the thicket. Speak the truth. Did I not see thee begging of the little one? Luckily thou didst not know the charm. I pity thee, for thou leadest a miserable life." True, it is a miserable life," said Peter sadly. "Well, I have helped many an one already how much dost thou require to start with, speak!" The poor Boor dealer, who stood among the prisoners with a bandaged hand, declared that the villain had not even paid for the honey that caused the whole tumult.

"Well," exclaimed the Rajah, after profound pause, "here now may most plain ly be seen a proof—if any such were required—that my subjects only want a pretext, no matter what, to quarrel, and they are sure to go to loggerheads."

I now throw no blame upon either the cat or dog; for each animal followed its own peculiar instinct. The blame and the punishment, too, must light upon the owners of the dog and cat for fighting, and thus inducing others to espouse so ridiculous a quarrel."

And forthwith he ordered all the principal rioters into confinement, saying also to the rest of the people:

Go home now, fools that ye are, and try whether you cannot make up your minds to live in peace with one another. I cannot prevent your keeping cats and dogs, because were I to do so we should be devoured by vermin and exposed to robbery. But this, I tell you, you shall not turn yourselves into cats and dogs for the future with impunity—Depart!" So they all sneaked off, and the active little man whose head somebody had broken, scrached it, and said:

"Only think how well that strange fellow knew us all!"

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS.

BY ADELAIDE A. PROCTOR.

The earth is so bleak and deserted,
So cold the winds blow,
That no bud or blossom will venture
To peep from below;
But, longing for spring time, they nestle
Deep under the snow.

Oh, in May how we honored Our Lady,
Her own month of flowers!
How happy we were with our garlands
Through all the spring hours!
All her shrines, in the church or way-side,
Were made into bowers.

And in August—her glorious Assumption;
What feast was so bright!
What clusters of virginal lilies,
So pure and so white!
Why, the incense could scarce overpower
Their perfume that night.

And through her dear feasts of October,
The roses bloomed still:
Our baskets were laden with flowers,
Our Lady to fill!
Oleanders, geraniums, and myrtles,
We chose at our will.

And we know when the Purification,
Her first feast, comes round,
The early spring flowers, to greet it,
Just opening are found;
And pure, white, and spotless, the snow-drop
Will pierce the dark ground.

And now, in this dreary December,
Our glad hearts are faint
To see if earth comes not to help us;
We seek all in vain:
Not the tiniest blossom is coming
Till Spring breathes again.

And the bright feast of Christmas is dawning,
And Mary is blest:
For now she will give us her Jesus,
Our dearest, our best.
And see where she stands, the maid-mother,
Her Babe on her breast!

And not one poor garland to give her,
And yet now, behold,
How the kings bring their gifts—myrrh and incense,
And bars of pure gold;
And the shepherds have brought for the Baby
Some lambs from their fold.

He stretches his tiny hands toward us,
He brings us all grace;
And looks at His mother, who holds Him—
The smile on her face
Says they welcome the humblest gifts
In the manger we place.

Where love takes, let love give; and so doubt not,
Love counts but the will,
And the heart has its flowers of devotion
No winter can chill;
They who cared for "good-will" that first
Christmas
Will care for it still.

In the chapel on Jesus and Mary,
From our hearts let us call,
At each Ave-Maria we whisper
A rose-bud shall fall,
And at each Gloria Patri a lily,
The crown of them all!

"THE CAKE WALK."

A Richmond Christmas Festival.

The negroes certainly deserve the palm for inaugurating novel festivities and keeping in lively remembrance customs that have become traditional from their remotest ancestors. Every season has its peculiar holiday, and it is safe to say that no class of people enters into the noise and fun of excitement of these occasions with more zest than the colored population of our Southern States.

During Christmas week their amusements take a variety of forms that would puzzle many a more sober head, but we know of none more laughable than the "Cake Walk." This *fete* is peculiar to the colored race, and the amount of side-stitching they owe to it is sufficient to make one wonder that they have so long as they do. They laugh, elongate and collapse by turns, and never seem satisfied.

A house is chosen having a large room with a substantial floor, for the pedestrians are selected without regard to weight. Somehow, one of the shortest, heaviest females is always nominated for the contest, and the tallest, slimmest man that might be pardonably mistaken for a lamp post, is placed beside her on the list. Around the room are ranged tables loaded with seasonable fruit, while at the four points of the compass are displayed toothsome delicacies, the second collection richer than the first, the third than the second, and the fourth than the third. In case one of the walkers grows weary, a few winks at one of these tables causes a nervous telegram to the stomach to inquire if supplies are needed, but the eye, calling the next table with its superior attractions urges the feet forward. Thus round and round is frequently made, the innocent walkers totally unconscious of the length of their tramp. Everything being in readiness, we will step aside and witness this unique entertainment.

For a moment all is silence; then a hundred heads are strained; hats fall from hands, feathers are eagerly inoculated and quickly upset; coarse throats and shrill voices commence the shout, "Hi ho! here they come!" and two females set off on the walk for one of the prize cakes.

It is impossible to repress a smile as these aged dames elevate their turbaned heads, and, striving to throw all the youthfulness possible into their carriage, hasten around the room. One cannot help remembering the story of the little old woman who swept the sky with her broom, and half believing that if two broomsticks were produced, these antiquated specimens of humanity would seize upon them, and fly away through the air. But as everything has been placed in apple-pie order, as a broomstick is visible, and the little dusky-faced pedestrians reach the goal amid a burst of laughing applause. Breathlessly they resume their seats, and their places are taken by three young colored maidens. One of these damsels is a tall, slender girl, seemingly strung upon wires; another is short and pretty-faced, and the third is decidedly stout. Perhaps yet low dressed with red flounces and decked with green bows, would not be considered in good taste by some ultra-fashionable feminine judges of the matter; but tastes differ, and certainly, from the self-satisfied half-coquettish air of these competing damsels, it is easily to be perceived that each one considers herself quite *au fait* as to the matter of dress, and is complacently nodding. Loud clapping of hands and cheers greet them as they start upon their expedition, which is to be three times round the room. Long and rapid are the strides of the tall maiden, short and breathless the quick stepping of the stout one, and easy and graceful the footfalls of the little one. Faster and faster they go, making no endeavor to keep step; flounces flying and ribbons fluttering, snowy-capped eyes flashing and cheap jewelry glittering in the gas-light, as the aspiring three hasten around the hall, each one proudly expectant of winning the first cake. However, the trial is not for speed, but to see which one excels in the fine art of walking, which one carries her head and shoulders erect, which one turns her toes *out*, and which one knows how to manage her arms and hands gracefully.

The fashion in which chignons becomes frizzled is ludicrous in the extreme; they all seem electrified, and we can almost hear the snap of the current as six feet "touch and go" on the sanded floor.

As the walk draws near its close the enthusiasm of the spectators waxes louder and deeper, and cheer after cheer greets them as they reach the goal. The little maid is almost unanimously pronounced the victor, and entitled to the first cake.

A dusky swain, whose heart is smitten quite seriously at the failure of his "particular friend, Clarinda," in the contest, attempts to stand on the back of a chair long enough to protest against the decision of "dis yere honorbul kort," but a hat skillfully shied by the "man" of the victor seals his mouth effectually.

The two largest cakes are unanimously given to the two old women who walked first, because they are two old bodies, and, as a spectator remarks, "They hain't much longer to eat sweet things anyhow!" The prize cakes being thus disposed of, then follows a general promenading, and every one being apparently in the best of spirits, great merriment prevails.

These festivals are occasions of great amusement to the whites, and there is generally a goodly delegation, as they enter into the spirit of the season, and join the negroes in laughter loud and long enough to have come from the six-foot throat of a giraffe.

THE beautiful custom of adorning the houses with evergreen during the Christmas holidays, is ascribed to various causes. Those who have taken the Christian view of the matter refer to those expressions so often met with in the poetical writings, where green boughs are spoken of as ornaments of the sanctuary and signs of rejoicing. Others have affirmed that the custom had a pagan origin, and refer to the beautiful druidical custom of hanging up in the house boughs of green, to which the wood-spirits might resort to shelter them from the nipping blasts of winter.

A CHRISTMAS STORY.

A REAL INCIDENT.

BY GRACE GREENWOOD.

On a Christmas night, some years ago, there were gathered about the wide fire-place of a large New England kitchen a happy family circle, consisting of a well-to-do farmer, who was a magistrate—known far and wide as "Squire Percival"—his comely wife, two fair daughters, a niece, and last, but not least, a son, just home from Yale for the holidays.

The night without was seasonable cold, and brilliant with moonlight and starlight. The large stone farm house stood on the brow of a hill behind a protecting line of tall pine trees, the only green in the wide landscape. The steep hillside and the valley beneath were heavily blanketed with snow.

The early part of the evening had passed merrily with games, jests and songs. But for an hour or two the conversation had taken a drift into the realms of the supernatural. One ghost had succeeded another till, as the "witching time of night" approached, and the fire burned low, the circle instinctively drew closer together, with thrills and shudders of strange spiritual dread, which is yet akin to the keenest pleasure—an awesome joy, an exquisite terror. The solemn sighing of the winds among the trees, heard in the pauses of ghostly recitals, added its wondrous, weird effect to the theme.

Just as young Percival had concluded a wild German legend, which he declared "splendid stuff for dreams," the outside door was heard to open suddenly. All looked around more or less fearfully, to see standing on the threshold the slight form of a fair young woman, clad in white, and looking strangely pure, and cold, and luminous, like the incarnated moonlight.

"With the glide of a spirit she came forward. Her feet were quite bare and her arms were drooping wearily. Masses of fair hair fell over her shoulders, but her eyes were dark and fixed with a melancholy stare. Her lips were slightly parted and almost colorless.

THE DAILY GAZETTE.

OFFICIAL PAPER
Of Pittsburgh, Allegheny City and Allegheny County.

GAZETTE BUILDING:
Corner of Sixth Avenue and Smithfield Street.

MONDAY, DEC. 26, 1870.

GOLD closed in New York on Saturday at 110¾.

THE ATTEMPT to thrust a monarch on a people who sigh for a Republic does not appear so easy as General Prim and his associates expected. The fate of Maximilian is not forgotten, and there is naturally some hesitation by the late elected Italian King of Spain. We don't suppose the protest of the late deposed Isabella, and the aspiring Carlos make him hesitate, but the angry mutterings which come from the people and the Cortes may well cause him to pause.

THE LATE COUP by the French don't affect the situation in the slightest degree. The effort by Trochu to break through the Prussian lines on Tuesday and Wednesday was a complete failure. The feints west and south of the city appear to have met with better success, but the real attack at Bourget, on the northeast, was a very weak affair. They succeeded in carrying the Saxons advanced post, but their reserves came forward and drove the French back with little loss on either side.

THE REPORT that gives Georgia to the Democrats we do not accord full credit yet. Though such a result from the bad management, by the Republicans of that State, would not surprise us. It was a very spirited contest, with the advantage largely in favor of the Republicans for the first two days. The election is an important one. Seven Representatives are to be returned to Congress, and the selection of two Senators will depend on the Legislature chosen at this time. This State has had seven Senators since the war, but none have as yet been admitted.

CHRISTMAS.

The origin of the religious and festive season called Christmas, which is evidently derived from *Christi masse*, the mass of Christ, is involved in obscurity. It is held by some that it was observed as a feast commemorative of the Nativity of the Saviour of the world, as early as the close of the first century.—A. D. 98. It is maintained that it first received pontifical sanction and authority A. D. 137, when Pope Telesphorus issued a decree that it should be observed as a solemn feast, accompanied with divine service. It is confidently asserted that it was observed as a sacred festival at the close of the second century, during the reign of the Emperor Commodus. There is a circumstance of a most melancholy nature in the history of the Roman Empire, which goes to show that religious ceremonies were held in commemoration of the birth of Christ prior to the close of the "ten persecutions." About the year of our Lord 302, Diocletian, on receiving information that a number of christians were assembled in a church for the purpose of celebrating the nativity of the son of Mary, gave orders for the doors to be closed, and the house to be set on fire, the consequence of which was that the building was reduced to ashes, and all the people perished in the flames. But we think that the most authentic record which we have of Christmas being made a sacred festival under ecclesiastical decree, is to be found in the history of Pope Julius I., who presided over the Romish See from A. D. 337 to A. D. 352. Chrysostom relates that St. Cyril of Jerusalem urged upon Julius to cause a thorough inquiry to be made in regard to the time of the Saviour's birth, and to fix upon and decree that which seemed to be best "authenticated by tradition." In compliance with the urgent request of Cyril, learned men, both in the Eastern and Western church, were ordered by the Pope to make a diligent investigation of the matter. When the result of their labors was laid before Julius, he issued a decree that the 25th of December should be observed as the anniversary of Christ's birth, and we believe it has been so observed ever since.

But it is evident that the precise date of the nativity of Jesus in Bethlehem of Judea has not been ascertained as yet. There is even a difference of opinion as to the year in which he made his advent into the world, how then can the *day* be fixed with precision? Chronologists, commentators, and critics are not agreed either as to the season of the year, or the month when Christ was born. No less than ten months out of the twelve have been fixed upon as the time of his nativity. The Egyptians gave it as their opinion that he was born in January; Professor Wagenseil, in February or August; Clemens Alexandrinus, in April or May; Epiphanius says that many supposed it was in June; Dr. Lightfoot's calculation is that he was born in the thirty-fifth year of the reign of Herod, and thirty-first of Augustus Cæsar, in the year of the world three thousand nine hundred and twenty-eight, and in the Jewish month Tisri, which corresponds with our September. It is held that as that was the season of the year when the feast of Tabernacles was observed, which was typical of Our Lord's Incarnation, it may be reasonably supposed that at that time the "Word was made flesh and *tabernacled* among us." Joseph Scaliger and others say he was born in the month of October. Many others hold that his birth took place in the month of November, whilst we have already seen that the Latin Church fixed it on the 25th of December, the day on which it is now observed, at least professedly.

Some of the best writers and critics are of the opinion that the nativity of the Saviour could not have occurred in the month of December, for, notwithstanding the climatic difference between Judea and the United States, it is well known that that was a time of great inclemency, even in the former country, when, owing to the copious rains that fell, neither shepherds nor flocks could remain on the plains of Bethlehem at night, which they did at the time of the nativity; according to the sacred record.

In our opinion there is much plausibility in the theory of that celebrated philosopher, Sir Isaac Newton, who was born on Christmas-day, 1642. According to this distinguished mathematician and natural philosopher, most of the religious feasts and anniversaries were fixed at the cardinal points of the year without paying any regard to the date of the events which they were designed to commemorate. For example, the Annunciation was fixed on the 25th of March, the time of the vernal equinox; the feast of Saint Michael on the 29th of September, the time of the autumnal equinox; and the Mass of Christ on the 25th of December, the time of the winter solstice

According to the earliest accounts which we have, Christmas was one of the most movable of feasts. By some it was confounded with the "Epiphany," or manifestation of the "child Jesus," to the eastern magi, and was observed on the 6th of January, or the twelfth day after the 25th of December. Some celebrated the 1st of January, others the 20th of March, which was about the same time the Jewish passover was observed. Many others celebrated the 29th of September, the time at which the Jews held the feast of Tabernacles. The Eastern church observed the 6th of January, and the Western church the 25th of December.

It will appear from what we have reproduced above, that there always has been, as indeed there is still, an honest difference of opinion among professing Christians as to the time when the nativity of the Saviour should be celebrated. There is also a difference of opinion as to the manner in which the day should be observed. It is more than doubted by some whether there should be a mingling of sacred and worldly enjoyments on that day. It is contended earnestly by these, that if the day is kept in honor of the Saviour's birth, it should be devoted exclusively to religious employments. Others, again, hold that as that event shed a flood of splendor on our world, gave hope to the nations of the earth, and has filled them with "glad tidings of great joy," mirth, jollity and social enjoyment are not incompatible with any sacred solemnities that may be observed in celebrating even the supposed recurrence of its anniversary. These are matters, however, which we leave to ecclesiastics to decide according to their own perceptions of right and wrong. In our judgment, however, no person, whether the precise day has been ascertained or not, however lofty his religious profession, could or should object to the religious observance of a fixed anniversary of the Lord's birth.

It may be news to some that many of the ceremonies of our Christmas festivities have been derived from the Roman Saturnalia, a festival in honor of Saturn, which was observed about the latter end of December, and was looked upon especially by the rustic population as a time of absolute relaxation from worldly toil and unbridled social merriment. During the period of its continuance all business was suspended, the law courts were closed, the schools enjoyed a vacation, no malefactor could be punished, and it was held to be impious to declare or commence war. All the barriers of distinction in society were removed for the time being. Slaves were permitted to wear the badge of freedom, and exempted from all toil. Arrayed in apparel taken from their masters' wardrobes they sat down to a princely banquet, and were waited upon by their owners. Men of every rank and condition devoted themselves exclusively to feasting and hilarity. Crowds of people thronged the streets of the cities, wearing masks of the most grotesque description, whilst they made the welkin ring with shouts of *Io Saturnalia*, and friends interchanged souvenirs in the form of presents.

To the rites, ceremonies and observances of the Saturnalia were added those of the British Druids, Saxons and Scandinavians, especially the hanging up of the "mistletoe" and the burning of the "Yule Log," known in the United Kingdoms of Great Britain and Ireland as the "Christmas Block."

During the Saturnalia, churches, private houses and marts of business were decorated with green boughs, and this Roman custom has been observed ever since. Yews, laurel and rosemary are generally used in the decoration of churches and other places. Holly is sometimes used, to indicate, as it is said, that in the midst of the most exuberant joy, there are always thorns of sorrow, and that whilst Christ filled the earth with gladness he had to bear a prickly crown. The use of the cypress on such occasions has been objected to because it is an emblem of mourning, its branches having been, in ancient times, used at funerals, and the coffins in which Grecian heroes and Egyptian mummies were deposited were made of its wood. Ivy is objectionable because it was sacred to Bacchus, the god who presided over cups. "The mystic mistletoe" has been repudiated because associated with Druidical rites. Indeed, some ecclesiastical authorities have prohibited the decoration of churches altogether on account of the relation it bears to Saturnalian, Druidical and other rites. But it has been argued that its association with Pagan rites is merely incidental, and that Christ entered into the city of Jerusalem amidst shouts of Hosannah! while the people strewed his path with palm trees. The practice is now general among those sects who celebrate Christmas with religious ceremonies. It is required, however, that all decorations be removed from sacred temples before Candlemas day (2d of February,) or the Purification of the Virgin.

The burning of a Christmas log is as objectionable on account of its superstitious associations as the decoration of houses. This custom is derived from the Scandinavians who at the feast of *Jul*, which was observed at the close of the year, kindled great bonfires in honor of their deity, Thor, the god of thunder. And yet, it is well known that in many parts of the British Isles the Christmas log is burned by some whom those who know them would never charge with being superstitious.

But a question occurs to us, why were festivals held by so many nations at the close of the year? The Romans had their Saturnalia, the Gothas their *Jul* or Yule in the month of December. This is easily accounted for. Many of the nations of antiquity worshipped the sun under different names. He was worshipped by the Phœnicians under the name of Baal; by the Moabites under that of Chemosh; and by the Ammonites under that of Moloch. The Greeks and Romans, Gauls and Britons paid adoration to him as Apollo. It is not strange, then, that different nations should adopt the same time—the end of the Old or beginning of the New Year—to hold a festival in his honor. About the 25th of December the days are shortest. Then the sun begins to take an upward march in the heavens.

In the Roman Catholic, Episcopal, Lutheran, and other Churches special services are held on Christmas Day, even when it falls on a week day. In the Roman Catholic Church three Masses are celebrated, with unusual pomp and ceremony—one at five in the morning, and the others at subsequent hours, and a brilliantly illuminated star is radiant over the altar, which is designed to symbolize the luminous appearance in the skies, which conducted the wise men to Bethlehem. In the other Churches mentioned, services are held appropriate to the occasion, and commence, at least in some of them, before day-break, as the general opinion is that Christ was born in the night.

For the history of "Krish-Kinkle," which is said to be a corruption of "Christ-Kindlein," or infant Christ, "Christmas boxes," "Christmas Candles," and various rites and ceremonies observed by different nations on this festive occasion, together with many superstitious connected with it, we must refer our readers to other sources of information, as our article has already exceeded all reasonable limits. Elsewhere in this issue will be found many things in relation to Christmas times that will prove interesting, no doubt, to all.

As Christmas fell this year on the Sabbath day (yesterday), the following poetical extract may not prove uninteresting to the curious. It shows that in former times it was considered an omen for good when it fell upon the first day of the week:

"Lordinges, I warne you al beforne,
Yef that day that Cryste was borne,
Falle upon a Sunday;
That wynter shalbe good par fay,
That grene wyxen alofte shalbe,
The commyr shall be fayre and dryc.
By hyrde shylle wythowtyn lesse,
Prove al tymbre shalbe sore,
And good tyme all thynge to don.
But tho that seuyth shalbe fownde sone,
Of grete chylde that day borne be,
A great lord he shalbe."

However much the custom of making Christmas presents and indulging in festive pleasure may be associated with Pagan superstitions, we feel convinced that few recipients of the favors of the season will seriously object on this ground. And it is not necessary that any who have the means which will enable them to present gifts to their friends, should refrain from doing so on this account, for we can assure them that neither their orthodoxy, nor their reputation will suffer from their being liberal, especially to the poor and those in their employment. Whether observed by Pagans or Christians it is a good old custom more honored in the observance than in the breach. Let it be extensively cultivated.

Let old grudges be forgotten, and all seek to realize "that peace on earth and good will to men," which Christ came to communicate and establish, while they give "glory to God in the highest" for his "*unspeakable gift*" to the world.

We wish a "Merry Christmas and happy New year" to all our readers and all others beside, and many joyous returns of the same.

THE NEW PARTY IN THE HOUSE.

The *World's* Washington correspondent telegraphs, under date of the 22d, that

"The authority of a prominent Western Democrat is given for the statement that Democrats and Revenue Reform or Independent Republicans are likely to unite to secure the organization of the House in the Forty-second Congress. He further says that objections which have heretofore been urged against this coalition have to a great extent been met and obviated, so that the movement now possesses every element of prospective success."

This rather startling announcement impels us to recur to the *Free-Trader* for this month, which has a list of the members elect to the next House classified as they are expected by the importing interest to divide on the Tariff question. The Republicans who are claimed by it as "Revenue Reformers" are as follows:

Chas. Hays, Alabama;	D. P. Lowe, Kansas;
J. A. Logan, Illinois;	*J. G. Blaine*, Maine;
Chas. B. Farwell, do.	*Emery Twichell*, Mass.;
J. F. Farnsworth, do.	Henry Waiden, Mich.;
H. C. Burchard, do.	Wm. L. Stoughton, do.
John B. Hawley, do.	*John T. Averill*, Minn.;
Burton C. Cook, do.	*G. A. Finkelnburg*, Mo
Jesse H. Moore, do.	*I. C. Parker*, do.
John R. Hay, do.	*James G. Blair*, do.
J. M. Wilson, Indiana;	*C. St. John*, N. York
John Coburn, do.	*John H. Ketcham*, do.
James H. Tyner, do.	Milo Goodrich, do.
John P. C. Shanks, do.	Freeman Clark, do.
William Williams, do.	A. F. Perry, Ohio;
Jasper Packard, do.	Job E. Stevenson, do.
G. W. McGrary, Iowa;	S. Shellabarger, do.
A. H. Colton, do.	John Beatty, do.
W. G. Donnan, do.	James Munroe, do.
M. M. Walden, do.	W. P. Sprague, do.
Frank W. Palmer, do.	J. A. Garfield, do.
Jackson Orr, do.	W. H. H. Stowell, Va;
G. W. Hazleton, Wisconsin.	

* Bolters.

We have placed in Italics the names of those with regard to whom the claim of *The Free-Trader* seems to us especially preposterous. We judge that the starring Speaker Blaine as a "Revenue Reformer" is a blunder, yet the claim as to several others is scarcely less absurd. We do not believe that ten of the entire forty-three would favor the election of any Speaker mainly by Democratic votes, unless that Speaker were himself.

But the fact that these gentlemen are paraded in the *Free Trader* as of the cabal which is expected to triumph over the Republican organization in the next choice of Speaker imposes on them a public duty. Messrs. Logan, Farnsworth, Garfield, Ketcham, Stevenson, &c., do you severally propose to vote for a Speaker of the next House who is supported as a "Revenue Reformer" in opposition to the regular Republican candidate? Your Republican constituents would like to know; and it seems to us your plain duty to let them know. You were chosen as Republicans, by the votes of Republicans regardless of economic differences. Which if you, if any, intend to vote with the great body of the Democrats to organize the House as to them shall seem good? Which of you have had your objections to what the *World* terms "*this coalition*" removed? Should not those of you who are members of the present House unite in a card which sets forth the exact position of each of you on this important question.

The above we take from the New York *Tribune* of the 24th. We are glad to notice that the *Tribune* is not so much on the "Bolt" as it was. Its questions to these gentlemen are sound, every one of them. The Republican Party will prosper than better without any of these "bolters" than they can without the party. Every one of them owes what they are to the party, and the sooner these gentlemen, who are always on the lookout for something new, whereby they may ride into power, are thrown overboard, the better.

MORTARA.

A Visit to the Once Famous Family.

I lately had an opportunity, writes an Italian correspondent of the London *Daily Telegraph*, of becoming acquainted with Madame Mortara, the mother of the famous "child Mortara," whose fate many years ago occupied the attention of the entire European, and especially of the English, press. A very respectable and numerous family is that of the Mortaras; but very unhappy, indeed, is the mother who can never forget her beloved Edgar, snatched away thirteen years ago by the cruel fanaticism of priests. During the conversation with Mrs. Mortara I did not conceal my curiosity to know something concerning her christened son, whom, I supposed, it would be easier to get back again, now that the Pope's Government had been abolished. I already knew that the Italian civil authorities had succeeded in restoring to another Jewish family, named Cohen, their child, who had been taken away for the same reason; and I asked if she had made any attempt to obtain the same result. I was then informed that M. Mortara, not long after the entrance of the italians into Rome, had gone to pay a visit to his son. Don Pio Mortara, actually one of the most distinguished and learned young monks in one of the principal convents in Rome, affectionately received his father, who found him most devoted until the religious question was broached. To the prayers of his parent that he should return home, where a tender mother was expecting him he firmly, but at the same time respectfully, replied "that he was on the path of truth, and very happy in his state; and that no power on earth would be able to remove him from the religious career which he had undertaken, inspired by faith, and greatly aided by the care of Pius IX." The unhappy father did not yield to the first trial, and expressed an intention of appealing to the italian government for justice. "Justice can only be expected from God," the young man replied; but he evidently appeared rather startled by the threat. The interview did not continue very long in the same tone, and it ended in the son's inviting his father to go and dine with him in the convent. The elder Mortara, however, declined the offer. The evident immutability of the monk's resolution persuaded the father not to attempt anything with the Italian authorities, and he left Rome without any more hope. After several days a letter from Don Pio Mortara reached his family in Florence. It did not come from Rome—Don Pio wrote from Brussells. In this note he announced that after his father's last visit he did not consider himself quite safe in Rome; he feared violence might be offered to his will and to his opinion, and the Pope and his protectors agreeing he fled to Belgium. I have related a true story, however strange it may appear, but knowing the immense care and trouble which the pontiff and his dependants have bestowed upon young Edgar ever since the first days in which they took him under their guardianship—knowing their zeal in persuading him of the truth of Catholicism, and the rare intelligence of their proselyte—it may be easily understood that his acetic sentiments and gratitude toward those whom he recognized as his supporters had completely changed his heart. Finally, while on this subject, I shall give you one more incident. Don Pio, at the end of a scholastic year, gained the first prize. This won for the privileged student the right of being admitted to kiss the foot of his Holiness. When the lad was in his presence, Pius IX. addressed him kindly and affably, and begged him to continue in his successful course: for this he would gratify his own paternal affection and interest. His Holiness then bestowed on young Mortara his blessing, and concluded with these very words: "Figlio mio, quanto mi costi!" (My son, how much you cost me). Pius IX. thus recognized the fact of the abduction of young Mortara, which had put Europe in commotion, had shaken one of the props of his temporal throne.

The Ghost of Anneke Jans Laid at Last.

The Trinity Church property in New York city has for many years, been claimed by the supposed heirs of Anneke Jans, and some credulous persons have advanced money to prosecute this and other suits against the corporation. In an action recently brought in the Superior Court of New York city by a descendant from Anneke Jans, to recover his share of the Trinity Church estate, an opinion filling four columns of the daily journals has just been delivered, and it has been decided that, from a most careful inspection of all the charters, grants, and conveyances to said operation, that its title to all the lands and property held by it is most indisputable. The judge, after reciting the chain of title says: "These grants cover all the lands about which there is so much said, and to which certain pretended claims are laid, none of which so far as I have seen, have the slightest resemblance to legal fairness." The summary of the legal position of the church, as given by the Court, is substantially as follows: When the English Crown made the several grants, it was in the full possession and enjoyment of all the property so granted, and through its governors and law officers gave the like possession of said property to the corporation of Trinity Church, which property has been lawfully in its possession until now. The grants by the English Crown have also, since the Revolution, been confirmed by the New York Legislature to the corporation of Trinity Church. Another point is that twenty years' possession, with a claim of rightful ownership of land, is in New York a bar to all recovery therefor. Yet his claim be ever so just and equitable. The corporation of Trinity Church has been in the lawful and just possession of of its property for over one hundred years and the Court says that this fact, taken together with the law and the title deeds, should satisfy the most unreasonable mind that the claims of the heirs of Anneke Jans against the church are of the most absurd kind.

A SEDALIA business firm has commenced a suit against the authorities of that city to recover $83,400 for loss sustained through the burning of a brewery. The claim is based upon the insufficiency or inactivity of the Fire Department.

Marriage of an American to a Spanish Princess.

A correspondent sends us the following translation of an interesting wedding announcement, from the Lisbon *Diario de Noticias*, of the 13th of November last—the groom being an American, and the bride a Spanish princess. The *Diario* says:

The marriage of the Princess Dona Maria Isabel Francisca de Bourbon, daughter of her Royal Highness, the Infanta of Spain Dona Isabel Fernanda de Bourbon de Bourbon, and of Count de Gurowski, and the niece of the ex-Queen Dona Isabel II., and the exKing Don Francisco de Assis of Spain, with Mr. Charles Allen Perkins, of the United States, took place yesterday. The most intimate acquaintances of her Royal Highness only were present.

The religious ceremonies commenced with the rite of the Roman Catholic Church, at St. Louis des Francais, Father Miel officiating; after which, according to the Protestant rite, at the Legation of the United States of America, on account of the bridegroom being Protestant. Their Majesties, the ex-King and Queen of Spain, Don Francisco d'Assis, and Dona Isabel II., were god-parents to the marriage. The persons present, were: H. R. H. the Senora Infants of Spain, and her son; the Marchioness de Vianna, Viscountess Menezes, Viscountess Torras and daughters, Don Thomazia Guedes, Mrs. Munro and daughters, Madame Gould, the United States Minister, the United States Consul, Admiral Glisson, United States Navy, Commodore Rogers, United States Navy, the officers of the steamer *Franklin*, in full uniform, the Secretaries of the Italian, English, Russian, and Belgium Legations, Count de Mesquitella, Count Teixeira de Vasconcelles, with many American ladies, wives of the American officers.

The bride wore a beautiful white gown, and appeared very happy conversing with all the guests present. The groomsmen were: Count de Mesquitella, Admiral Glisson, the Minister of the United States, and the Consul of the United States.

After the ceremonies the wedding party proceeded to the residence of H. R. H., the Infanta Dona Isabel Fernanda, where a profuse and delicate lunch was provided, after which H. R. H. and party visited the United States ship Franklin, where Admiral Glisson and Commodore Rodgers and officers were very polite in their warm reception of H. R. H., as well as all those who had the honor to accompany her, in congratulating this sympathetic union of a young lady of royal blood with a citizen of the most genuine of Republics.

JEYPORE.

A Visit to an Oriental City.

The recent visit of the Viceroy of India to Jeypore, is thus described in the London *Times*:

"The town was in its gayest. It had for days and days kept holiday, looking forward to this great pageant, rare enough in one sense, for Lord Mayo is certainly the first Governor-General who ever visited Jeypore in state, though it is said that Lord W. Bentinck once did so privately. What the city was at that time it would, perhaps, be difficult to ascertain, but now it is one of the most beautiful in India. Entering by the eastern gate there is a fine street, eighty yards in breadth and half a mile long, with lofty houses, of all styles of architecture and all manner of coloring, but very colorful and graceful as a rule. At the end of this street is a wide square from which other streets start in four different directions. In the center of the town is the palace of the Maharajah, built of white marble or something very like marble, and from it streets run in all four directions, all clean and handsome, and the principal ones paved with white stone. By seven o'clock in the morning the procession was in capital order—an admirably kept road, with cavalry and infantry lining the entire distance, and immense crowds of people, a large number of the ladies, and some very pretty, were in the background. The following was the order of the procession:

"The cavalry of the Jeypore irregular force forms the advance guard. Then came the sons of Thakoors—about two hundred in number—mounted on horses. Then the elephants, with the following: The private secretary to the viceroy; the military secretary to the viceroy and the political agent of Jeypore; the viceroy and the Maharajah, accompanied by Colonel Prebyn, on the state elephant; on each side two of the principal Thakurs on elephants, and carrying chowries of peacock's feathers. Then at intervals: The secretary to the government of India, Foreign Department, with one of the principal Thakoors; the agent to the governor-general, with the Nawab Faiz Ali Khan, G. S. I.; Gurald de-camps to the viceroy on elephants; Colonel Fraser, C. B.; Captain Tempest, and the other visitors and guests on elephants. The procession was ended by another detachment of cavalry.

"The entrance to Jaypore has an easy ascent and as the procession, about a mile long, wound its way along this road the scene was exceedingly picturesque. When the viceroy's elephant entered the city from the Eastern Gate the troops in the streets presented arms, and the batteries fired a royal salute. The people in the streets and on the house tops rose as if on a signal, with an effect really imposing. After passing through the principal streets the procession came to the Ajmere Gate, and was there met by a part of "The Warriors"—the Nagas—a body of men eight thousand strong, devoted to war and bound against marriage, making up their ranks from time to time by adoption. Four thousand men lined the road from the Ajmere Gate to the Residency, and some marched and danced in front of the elephants. The time taken up by the procession was two hours. When the Residency was arrived at the Maharajah took his leave; but at 5 o'clock there was a grand Durbar, and presents were given to the Maharajah and chief Sirdars. The return visit was made at 5 o'clock, the Maharajah meeting the Governor-General at the entrance to the palace, and conducting him to a golden chair, beneath a rich canopy of gold embroidered cloth.

THE WEST.

THERE is a five years old boy at Sheboygan who writes poetry. Its mother says the verses are really beautiful.

THE longest wagon bridge in Iowa is being thrown over the Skunk River, in Jasper County. It is 2,800 feet in length.

THEY SAY the fleas are so bad in California, that ladies at the balls carry a little ivory-tipped instrument called a "scratcher."

CALIFORNIA'S progress of oranges, lemons, limes, figs, olives, almons and raisin grapes, this year, is immense, but bananas, cocoa-nuts and dates don't thrive.

A LITTLE Flood boy in Wisconsin lit the fire with kerosene. It was the non-explosive kind, and the neighbors rushed in as soon as they could with offers of assistance, but it was too late.

DEWEY, the man who was hung up for a while last fall, by a vigilance committee at Charlton, Iowa, has been prosecuting his hangers, and finally has succeeded in obtaining a judgment for $3,000 damages against three of them. The grand jury indicted the discovered trio.

THE FORT SCOTT *Monitor* says:

"Mr. Wm. Potts has been living pleasantly with his wife, during the fall, in a cabin near the northwest corner of the fair grounds. During the holding of the State Fair, he had a boarder named Jackson Bryant, of Carthage, Mo. Mr. Potts has been clerking lately in the 'What Cheer,' on Locust street, his home being a short distance from there and near the old brewery. Brant has been in town lately, and the husband has been keeping an eye on him. Probably his jealousy was justifiable. Last night about 8 o'clock he left the 'What Cheer' to make a call at home. Soon he returned very much excited, grabbed a revolver and set out again. In a few minutes the report of fire-arms was heard, and Potts was picked up near his house with a bullet hole through his breast. Bryant has not yet been arrested. Potts will probably die, as he is lying very low. The circumstances of the fray are buried in the bosoms of the two participants."

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Courier Journal* writing from Washington, Ga., on the 12th inst., says: The announcement that certain Radical orators would be here to beard Democracy in the home of Toombs, Judge Reese and Garnett Andrews, filled our town with freedmen on the 9th inst. The speakers failing to come to time, a negro named Nelson mounted a dry goods box and treated his brethren to a funny and somewhat exasperating Democratic oration, which put them in an ugly humor. Feeling emboldened by their numbers, they began to insult a member of the Legislature, drew a revolver on a white gentleman, who knocked him down before he could fire. A negro known as "Wicked Bill" then fired at the white man, and missing him, inflicted a probably fatal wound on the fallen legislator. Wicked Bill was then shot dead by persons who had witnessed his attempt at assassination. The affair produced the greatest excitement.

Cure of Consumption.

The cure of a disease of a consumptive kind necessarily prompts a doubt in the mind, as most people have been taught to believe it of an incurable nature, and as long as this is believed to be the case people will be loth to do anything for its relief, rather trusting to the merciful doings of nature than to bad doctoring. Dr. Keyser reports two well marked cases of pulmonary disease, one on Liberty street, and the other in Manchester, both these persons, if applied to, will substantiate the facts in a way so forcibly as to put all doubt out of the question; and, with all this, people daily yield up their lives to the fell destroyer, accounting themselves vanquished at the first approach of the disease. What we say to persons of a consumptive habit, or with the disease fastened on their system, is that it costs but a trifle to try a bottle of Dr. Keyser's Lung Cure, which will convince more than columns of advertising. The Doctor makes the medicine, and if you wish, can examine your lungs from top to bottom, and accurately point out their unhealthy places. He may be seen from 9 A. M. until 1 P. M., at his new office, 167 Liberty street, Pittsburgh. If you drug—if does not keep it send five dollars to Dr. Keyser, and he will send four bottles securely boxed, by express, with full directions how to use it

NOW FOR CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.

LOOK, Look, Look, Look, at the splendid assortment at JAMES E. BURNS & CO'S Drug Store, corner of Penn and Sixth streets, where you will find Toilet Sets, Perfumes, English and Domestic, of all kinds. Also, new styles of Toilet articles, the finest that has ever been offered for sale in this city. Also, Beads of all kinds. Domestic Soaps and Perfumes, Hair Brushes and a very fine line of Toilet cases, suitable for traveling, containing everything in the toilet line. Do not fail to call and examine our splendid stock of Holiday Goods before purchasing elsewhere. JAMES E. BURNS & CO., corner of Penn and Sixth streets.

AN ABSOLUTE SAFEGUARD.

Invalids, broken down in health and spirits by Chronic Dyspepsia, or suffering from the terrible exhaustion which follows the attacks of acute disease, the testimony of thousands who have been raised as by a miracle from a similar state of prostration by Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, is a sure guarantee that by the same means you too may be strengthened and restored. But to those who stand in peril of epidemics, to all who, by reason of exposure, privations, and unwholesome climate or unhealthy pursuits, may at any moment be stricken down, this paragraph is most *particularly* and *emphatically* addressed. You who are thus situated, are proffered an absolute safeguard against the danger that menaces you. Tone and regulate the system with this harmless medicinal Stimulant and Alterative, and you will be forearmed against the maladies whose seeds float around you in the air unseen. Hostetter's Stomach Bitters are not only a standard Tonic and Alterative throughout the United States, but they are accredited by the certificates of the most distinguished citizens of the Union, to the people of all other lands. In Canada, Australia and the West Indies, they are gradually taking place of all other stomachics, whether native or foreign, and as surely as truth is progressive and demonstration overthrows doubt, they will eventually supersede every other invigorant and Restorative now employed in medicinal practice.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

STILL GOING ON!

THE GREAT

Closing Out Sale!

AT

26 Fifth Avenue.

ALL GOODS SELLING

AT

Half Price,

AND IN SOME INSTANCES

AT

Much Less!

SOME

GOOD BARGAINS LEFT.

Towels at 8c. worth 15c.
Towels at 15c. worth 30c.
Towels at 20c. worth 40c.
Towels at 25c. worth 50c.
Hose at 12 1-2c., 20c., 25c., 30c., 35c. and 40c.

ALL AT

Half the Regular Prices.

Ladies' Gloves, half price.
Children's Gloves, half price
Men's Gloves, half price.

Bargains in Laces.

Bargains in Handkerchiefs.
Bargains in Collars,
Bargains in Embroidery,
Bargains in Underwear.

A GOOD ASSORTMENT OF

FANCY ARTICLES

At Less Than Half the

ORIGINAL COST.

☞Call soon, as the Sale will only continue for one week longer.

A. W. ERWIN,

26 Fifth Avenue,

de19:j67 PITTSBURGH.

HO!

For the Holidays!

GET THE BEST

Sewing Machine,

And that is the

"FLORENCE,"

WITHOUT DOUBT.

WE CLAIM

That our Machine possesses advantages over others: In Sewing either to the Right or Left; Reverse Feed can be used in Fastening Seams; Changing Length of Stitch without stopping; has the Best Hemmer, sews Light or Heavy Goods without change of tension; Runs Light, is Noiseless, and is so simple in construction that a child of ten years can run it.

THE "FLORENCE"

Never Fails to give Satisfaction, Warranted for THREE YEARS and sold in Monthly Instalments.

Heckert & McCain,

No. 6 SIXTH STREET.

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FABER &

VAN DOREN,

367 Liberty Street,

PITTSBURGH, PA.

STEAM ENGINES,

IRON AND WOOD WORKING

MACHINERY,

Steam Pumps,

Engineers' and Machinists' Tools,

STEAM FIRE ENGINES,

BELTING,

Woolen Machinery, Machine Cards.

☞Manufacturers' and Mill Supplies. A constant supply on hand and furnished on short notice.

ORDERS SOLICITED.

CHRISTMAS

FURNITURE!

A fine assortment of all kinds of Furniture suitable for Ladies, Gentlemen and Children, at the Furniture Store of

T. B. YOUNG & CO.,

21 Smithfield Street.

de22:j68

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

MUTUAL LIFE

Insurance Co.,

OF

NEW YORK.

A PROFITABLE

AND

Safe Investment.

Philadelphia, Dec. 14, 1870.

To F. RATCHFORD STARR, Esq.,

General Agent Mutual Life Insurance Co., of New York:

DEAR SIR:—I have great pleasure in acknowledging receipt of check, in payment of the endowment Policy of your Company on my life, taken out by me twelve years ago, and which fell due yesterday. I regret that I did not make the amount larger, as I find that I have not only been insured for the amount of my Policy during the past twelve years, but have received back all the premiums paid, with a little over six per cent. compound interest thereon.

I cannot conceive of any safer or more desirable investment than I could have made. Even though it were possible to obtain the same amount of interest from any Banking or Savings Institution, there would have been no Insurance on my life, and only the amount deposited therein, with interest, would have been received by my estate in event of my death.

You are at liberty to give any publicity to this letter you desire, as I feel I will have conferred a benefit upon all whom it may induce to insure in the Company you represent.

I am, very truly, yours,

(Signed)

ROBERT R. CORSON,

711 SANSOM STREET.

THE

Mutual Life Insurance Co.

OF NEW YORK.

CASH ASSETS,

Over Forty-two Millions of Dollars

F. S. WINSTON, President,

F. RATCHFORD STARR,

Gen'l Agent for Pennsylvania & Delaware.

This is the largest and most successful Life Insurance Company in the world.

As shown by the last Annual Report of the Insurance Commissioner of the State of New York:

It issued 2234 more Policies in 1869 than any other Company.

It has 11,070 more Policies in force than any other Company.

Premium income $5,775,720 LARGER than any other Company.

Interest income $729,670 LARGER than any other Company.

Total income $6,515,390 LARGER than any other Company.

Cash dividends, $2,465,826 LARGER than any other Company.

Gross assets are $10,012,889 LARGER than any other Company.

Amount insured is $59,587,308 LARGER than any other Company.

The amount of Expenses and Death Losses, as compared with income, is SMALLER, and the Cost of Insurance LESS than in any other Company.

All persons who contemplate insuring their lives are respectfully invited to call at this office.

W. P. WOOLDRIDGE,

AGENT

For Allegheny Co. and Vicinity,

37 FIFTH AVENUE.

D. MAR HALL,
E. J. SEIBERT, } Special Agents.

de26:j5

CHRISTMAS

AND

NEW YEARS,

1870—1871.

Presentation Books

ELEGANTLY BOUND.

Standard Works,

OF VARIOUS AUTHORS.

JUVENILE BOOKS

AND

TOY BOOKS.

Writing Desks,

ROSEWOOD AND MAHOGANY. PLAIN. BRASS and PEARL MOUNTED.

Portfolios in Every Style.

CHESS, CHECKERS,

Backgammon Boards,

GOLD PENS & PENCILS.

BIBLES

AND

PRAYER BOOKS.

KAY & COMPANY,

No. 65 WOOD STREET,

de25 (LAFAYETTE BUILDING)

HEADQUARTERS FOR

HOLIDAY

GOODS!

GRAND OPENING

This Morning!

In connection with our Retail Room we will open to the Retail Trade part of our Wholesale Rooms up stairs, where will be exhibited the Largest assortment of Christmas Goods ever offered for sale in the city and cheap, imported by us. Purchasers need not pay two profits. Stock comprises in part elegant Writing Desks, Work Boxes, Ladies' and Gentlemens' Dressing Cases, Sewing Stands, Work Baskets, genuine Russia and Turkey Morocco Satchels, Glove Boxes, Jardiniers, Bohemia Vases, Musical Boxes, Segar Cases, fine Pocket Books, Cabas Fine Morocco and Pearl Albums, fine Pen Knives, Handkerchief Boxes, Jewel Cases, with an endless variety of Fancy Goods and Toys.

C. YEAGER & CO.

de24:j64

A FEW MORE FINE GOODS FOR Holiday Presents left yet at

WATTLES & SHEAFER'S,

101 FIFTH AVENUE.

STONE CAMEO SETS OF JEWELRY.
CHAIN BRACELETS.
BAND BRACELETS.
OPERA AND GUARD CHAINS.
GENT'S VEST CHAINS.
GENT'S GOLD WATCHES.
☞LADIES' GOLD WATCHES from $35 to

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

NEW GOODS

FOR THE

HOLIDAYS,

AT

WM. SEMPLE'S.

A Great Variety of

FANCY GOODS,

AT VERY LOW PRICES.

Bargains in

Ladies' and Children's

SUITS.

BROCHE SCARFS

ALL WIDTHS AND COLORS.

EVERY VARIETY OF

Ladies' Fancy Handk'fs,

GENTS' FANCY SILK

Handkerchiefs,

HOSIERY, GLOVES

AND

UNDERWEAR,

AT

WM. SEMPLE'S,

180 and 182 Federal Street, Allegheny.

FOR USEFUL

Holiday Presents,

GO TO

HORNE & CO'S

GRAND

Clearance Sale,

Who offer rare opportunities for securing

GREAT BARGAINS

In Goods Suited for Substantial

HOLIDAY GIFTS.

Real Lace Goods,

COLLARS,

SETS, BARBES, CAPES,

AND

Handkerchiefs.

Real and Imitation Lace Goods,
Broche Scarfs, Silk Scarfs,
Handsome Scarfs,
Embroidered

FINANCIAL.

Robinson Brothers,

BANKERS,

No. 78 Fourth Ave.,

Buy and sell all kinds of

Government Securities, State, City and County Bonds, Real Estate Mortgages and Business Paper.

Orders Executed for the Purchase and Sale of STOCKS at the NEW YORK STOCK BOARD.

Interest Allowed on Deposits.

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Jas. T. Brady & Co.

(Successors to J. JONES & CO.)

Corner Fourth Avenue and Wood Street,

BANKERS,

BUY AND SELL ALL KINDS OF

Government Securities,

GOLD, SILVER AND COUPONS,

ON MOST FAVORABLE TERMS.

Interest Allowed on Deposits.

Money loaned on Government Bonds at low rate of market rates.

ORDERS EXECUTED FOR THE PURCHASE AND SALE OF STOCKS, BONDS AND GOLD.

JAMES T. BRADY & CO.

THE DAILY GAZETTE.

MONEY AND COMMERCE.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH GAZETTE, SATURDAY, Dec. 24, 1870.

The stringency of money, and the extreme caution of lenders, have combined to make the week just closing one that will be remembered unpleasantly by a large number of people. And to say all, the business of three days was unfortunately crowded into one, the banks requiring that all notes due on either Sunday or Monday should be paid today. We did not learn that there was more than the usual amount of protested paper at the close of bank hours, and believe there was much less than was generally looked for.

There was nothing done in stocks. The brokers preferring to keep within doors, rather than face the fierce blasts of winter in the doubtful attempt to find the man with money to buy stocks.

The New York market has been unusually steady all day, and closes at an advance of about one-half per cent. throughout the railway list.

Government bonds have scarcely moved during the day, as will be seen by the comparative quotations.

The money market was quieter, and lenders being anxious to get interest for three days, did not dare to hold back for rates. The bank statement is weaker in the deposit line, but is on the whole favorable to an easier market next week.

Robinson Bros., No. 78 Fourth avenue, furnish the following comparative quotations of bonds and stocks, from their latest advices by wire:

	Friday.	Saturday.
Bonds—1881	117½	117½
" 1862	107¾	107¾
" 1864	106¾	106¾
" 1865	106¾	106¾
" 1865 new	106¾	106¾
" 1867	106¾	106¾
" 1868	106¾	106¾
10-40s	104¾	104¾
Currency 6's	124½	124½
Gold	110¾	110¾
RAILWAYS.		
New York Central	93½	93½
Do Scrip	87¾	87¾
Erie	23¾	23¾
Reading	98¾	98¾
Lake Shore	91¾	91¾
Cleveland & Pittsburgh	103¾	103¾
Fort Wayne	103½	103½
Chicago & N. W.	70¾	70¾
Do. Preferred	80¾	80¾
N. West. Common	55	55¾
Do. Preferred	79¾	79¾
Wabash	48	48
Do. Preferred	69	69
Rock Is. & Mississippi	97¾	97¾
Pacific Mail	39	39¾
West. Union Telegraph	45¾	45¾
Adams Express	61¾	61¾
U. S. Express	32¾	33

BANK STATEMENT.

The Bank statement is more favorable than was expected. The decrease in deposits reflects the western drain for currency.

Loans decreased	$1,567,780
Specie decreased	1,435,000
Legal Tenders decreased	767,297
Deposits increased	898,182
Circulation decreased	28,185

All boards adjourn over until Tuesday.

Closing quotations as received by James T. Brady & Co:

Gold	10¾	5-20s Jan. & Jy. 1865	9¾
U. S. 6s, 1881	13	5-20s Jan. & Jy. 1867	9¾
" 1862	7¾	5-20s Jan. & Jy. 1868	10¼
" 1864	7¾	C. P. R. R.	93
" 1865	7¾	Cv. Pacific	78

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

NEW YORK, December 24, 1870.

Gold has been very dull and steady at about the opening price—110¾@110¾. Loans were made at from 5 to 7 per cent. Clearances about $84,000,000. Governments have been very dull and steady, prices remaining at the close at about the opening rate. Stocks have been strong but very dull all day. Transactions have been made only to a very limited extent, as all contracts made to-day and expiring on Monday, bear one day's interest at 7 per cent. Money loaned on call at 7 per cent. Many will be easy at 7 per cent., and 7 per cent. gold State securities have been quite dull. Tennessees have been weak. Bank statement—loans, decrease $1,567,780; specie, increase $1,435,000; circulation, increase $28,185; deposits, increase $898,182; legal tenders, decrease $767,297. Monday will be observed as a holiday, and there will be no session of either the Stock or Gold Board as a consequence.

Sterling exchange firm. Money market easy. Coupons of 1881, 11½; 5-20s of '62, 10½; '64's, 10½; '65's, 10½; '65's new, 10½; '67's, 10½; '68's, 10½; 10-40s, 10¾; currency 6's, 12½.

Missouri 6s, Tennessee, old 62; do new 60; Virginia 6s, new 62; do old 60; North Carolina, old 35; do new 34.

U. P. Tel., 43½; Quicksilver, 3; Mariposa, 5½; do preferred, 28½; Adams Express, 61; West. Union Tel., 45¾; Merchants' Union, 3½; United States, 32; Pacific Mail, 39¾; N. Y. Central, 93; Erie, 23½; do scrip, 87½; Hudson River, 103; Reading, 98½; Michigan Central, 113½; C. & P. R. R., 93; Illinois, 130; do preferred, 85½; Cleveland & Pittsburg, 103½; Chicago & N. W., 70¾; do preferred, 80; Fort Wayne, 103½; do preferred, 93; Western Union Tel., 45¾; do preferred, 79¾; Terre Haute, 18; do preferred, 54; Ontario & Atlantic, 15; do preferred, 31½; C. & A., 97½; C. C. & C., 81; O. & M., 28½; C. C. & I., 81; O. & Mississippi, 27¾; Illinois Central, 130.

PITTSBURGH CATTLE MARKET.

EAST LIBERTY STOCK YARDS, SATURDAY, Dec. 24, 1870.

	Cattle.	Hogs.	Sheep.
Philadelphia	600	3500	3500
New York	600	3500	3500
Baltimore	300	3000	3000

CATTLE.

The receipts of cattle this week were light, unusually so, but the supply nevertheless seemed to be fully up to the demand, which was unusually light, while prices, as compared with last week have undergone no quotable change. Shippers generally seem to be impressed with the belief that poultry will largely take the place of beef until after the holidays are over, and consequently they bought sparingly and refused to pay any advance, notwithstanding the limited offerings. However, the market was fairly active and all that could be expected under existing circumstances and surroundings, and was about all that operators generally expected, and consequently, so far as we could discover everybody appeared to be satisfied.

Prime to shipping cattle sold at from 7@8c, and good at 6@6¾—some fancy brought 6 cts., but there were no lots of any consequence sold above 7¼ and but very few above 7 cents.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 21.

	No.	Wgt.	Price.
Hedges & Taylor sold for:			
" " " Adams	7	3,200	6 @ 6
" " " "	7	3,200	7 @ 7
" " " "	7	3,000	6 @ 6
B., L. & Co. for Pfeifer	20	18,250	5 @ 6
" " " Lafferty	19	17,650	5 @ 6
" " " Neal	7	7,400	5 @ 5
" " " McFaddon	14	14,100	5 @ 5
" " " "	7	6,800	5 @ 5
" " " Lafferty	21	20,850	5 @ 5
" " " Brown	17	16,750	5 @ 6
Hazlewood & Blackstock sold for:			
Orr & W for Ashbrook	34	32,600	6 @ 6
" " " "	31	30,200	6 @ 6
Kelly & Moore to Lamb	20	17,800	6 @ 6
Shamberg to Haines	19	18,050	6 @ 6
" " Erb	18	16,800	5 @ 6
" " Lantz	4	3,600	5 @ 5
Bamlon to Haines	20	18,000	6 @ 6
Grosswald & Co to Beiser	18	18,500	6 @ 6
Oden to Beiser	23	21,350	6 @ 6
THURSDAY, Dec. 22			
Hrisee & Taylor (same	60	62,500	6 @ 6
H. L. & Co. for Alexander	7	4,200	6 @ 6
" " " "	7	4,200	6 @ 6
" " " Neal	7	6,100	5 @ 5
Hazlew'd & B for McD	20	17,800	5 @ 6
" " " Bowring	20	17,200	6 @ 6
" " " Brookfield	2	2,100	6 @ 6
" " " Neal	2	1,700	5 @ 5
Smith & W for Callender	19	18,450	6 @ 6
Orr & W for Hegley	18	18,200	6 @ 6
Hill to Kelly	10	9,500	5 @ 5
Hill to Kelly	10	9,500	5 @ 5
Ready to Kelly	8	8,000	5 @ 5
Robinston to Brisee	24	21,170	6 @ 6
FRIDAY Dec. 23.			
H. L. & Co. for Thompson	12	10,300	6 @ 6
" " " Kaley	20	19,100	6 @ 6
" " " Neal	7	5,700	5 @ 5
Hazlew'd & B for M'Garvey	17	16,000	6 @ 6
" " " Kerwin	24	23,300	6 @ 6
Hedges & T for Houston	19	17,200	6 @ 6
" " " Shaver	4	3,100	6 @ 6
" " " "	7	6,100	6 @ 6

HOGS.

The market has been moderately active all week, and there has been less fluctuation in prices than for several weeks previous, and more confidence manifested. The supply has been quite large, though there was no material change from the number for the previous week, that there was this day week; shippers have been buying freely and regularly, and the market has been steady, there being no material change in prices. Nevertheless considering this there is no improvement in prices, except as compared with the early part of last week, and rather than otherwise a decline of very materially, there is not much assurance of any material advance. Quotations to-day may be fairly given as follows:

	No.	Wgt.	Price.
Hedges & Taylor sold for:			
Keenan to Quinn	210	16,800	3 25
Stutemyer to Pearce	177	16,000	4 75
Kloffenstine to Erisman	195	17,300	4 50
Clark to Erisman	145	11,600	4 50
Hazlewood & Blackstock sold for:			
Weaver to Hedges	446	34,830	4 20
Kerwin to Pidcock & Co	570	54,720	4 40
" " "	580	47,610	3 90
" " Taylor	240	15,850	3 75
" " Pancost	210	20,710	4 75
Shepherd to Hunchberger	90	8,380	3 80
Kohr to Taylor	322	26,520	3 12
Castwell to Dietrick	226	16,950	3 40
Carl to Erisman	307	15,240	3 45
Smith & Watson sold for:			
Simpson to Bailey	173	11,000	2 62
Balienger to Erisman	317	13,740	2 95
Budd to Taylor	57	3,790	3 40
Budd to Erisman	55	3,980	3 00

PETROLEUM MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH GAZETTE, SATURDAY, December 24, 1870.

The oil market has not been characterized by anything particularly new or important during the week which has just closed, nothing at least deserving of especial notice. The operations were small in the aggregate, and mostly for early deliveries, the bulk of the sales being for this month, and it is likely that business will continue dull during the balance of the year, excepting in the way of making settlements. Refiners are doing little or nothing excepting in working up old contracts; they are as a general thing neither buying crude nor selling refined; they have sold all they care for that they want to sell at present prices and have enough of the former on hand and bought, to cover their refined contracts, and this is all they want for the present. Futures, particularly for refined, have been more inquired for this week, and, consequently, there is a firmer feeling, and in some instances an advance in prices, though manufacturers generally are unwilling to sell, and we have but very few sales to report.

Receipts crude this week, 15,500 bbls; last week, 28,735; January 1, to date, 1,69,472; same time last year, 96,000. Exports refined this week, 12,645; last week, 23,755; January 1st to date, 794,092; same time last year, 501,095. Sales this week, 28,000 bbls crude, 4,500 refined; last week, 30,000 bbls crude, 1,500 refined.

There was little or nothing done to-day, and in the East business has been quiet since Monday Tuesday. Crude, in the absence of sales may be quoted nominally at 9½@9¾, 9⅝, or seller 60 days. December refined nominal at 22¼. Futures remain substantially as last quoted.

RECEIPTS CRUDE.

Fairview Oil Works 222, account J B Barbour; D Ely & Co, 74, account T M Perry; Peerless Oil Works 74, account Duncan & Young; Standard Oil Works 74, account Duncan & Young; 222 account J B Barbour; Cochran & Yard 32, account James Wilkins.

Total ..... 1,566 bbls.

SHIPMENTS REFINED OIL PER A. V. R. R.

Braun & Wagner, 350 bbls refined to Waring, King & Co., Phila.

Fretwell, Loggs, Stockdale & Co., 250 bbls ref. oil to Logan Bros. & Co., Phil'a.

McKelvey Bros. & Co 43 bbls refined oil to Logan Bros., Phila.

Fulton, Marvin & Co. 165 bbls ref. oil to Logan Bros. & Co., Phila.

Lyons & Co. 219 bbls refined oil to Logan Bros. & Co., Phila.

J. A. McKee 50 bbls refined oil to W. P. Logan Bros. & Co., Philadelphia.

J. M. Bitter, 312 bbls. ref. oil to Logan Bros. & Co., Phila.

J. A. McKee, 347 bbls refined oil to W. P. Logan Bros. & Co., Phila.

National Ref. Co. 200 bbls refined to Warden, Frew & Co., Philadelphia.

Lockhart, F. & Co., 326 bbls refined to Warden, Frew & Co., Philadelphia.

Forsyth Bros., 461 bbls refined oil to Warden, F. & Co., Phila.

Oil Queen Co., 82 bbls refined to Tack Bros. & Co., Phila.

H. Koehler & Co., 150 bbls ref. oil to Waring, McKay & Co., Phila.

D. Bye & Co., 100 bbls benzine to W. H. Baldwin, Phila.

Total ..... 3,453 bbls.

OIL SHIPPED EAST VIA. W. P. R. R.

Kirkpatrick & L., 58 bbls refined to W. P. Logan & Bro., Philadelphia.

Metzger, H. & Co., 207 bbls refined to Logan, Bro. & Co., Phila.

Total ..... 265 bbls.

[By P. & A. Telegraph.]

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 24, 12 M.—December 220¾c—sales of 500 bbls at the latter figure. January and February 22¾c. March and April 23¾c. February and July 23¾c. Crude 11½.

NEW YORK, December 24, 12 M.—No market to-day; business suspended.

PETROLEUM CENTRE, December 24, 11:30 A. M. Market quiet; buyers and selling; bolding at 23.50; offering $3.35@3.40; no sales.

Markets by Telegraph.

Chicago.

CHICAGO, December 24, 1870.

EXCHANGE—Unchanged.

FLOUR—Dull.

WHEAT—No. 2 spring Chicago quiet, closing at 98¾c; the market is unchanged this afternoon.

CORN—No. 2 mixed steady and closed quiet at 43¾c; the market is unchanged this afternoon.

OATS—No. 2 quiet at 29¼@29¾c.

RYE—No. 2 steady at 76c.

BARLEY—No. 2 dull at 90c.

PROVISIONS—Firmer; mess pork sold at $19 cash and sellers February.

HOGS—Dressed active at $4.90@5.

CATTLE—Dull and advanced.

RECEIPTS—For the past day: Flour, 5,000 bbls; wheat, 47,000 bush; corn, 4,000 bush, and 435 hogs.

SHIPMENTS—Flour, 2,000 bbls; wheat, 1,000 bush; corn, 14,000 bush; oats, 7,000 bush.

New York.

NEW YORK, December 24.—Cotton opened firm but closed dull, with middling uplands at 18½c. Flour in fair demand and firm; receipts 15,000 bbls; superfine western State $5.15@5.40; common to good extra $4.25@4.10; good to choice $5.15@5.80; white western extra $6.75; extra Ohio $6.40@6.75; Long Island $5.25. Rye Flour unchanged. Corn Meal quiet. Whisky in fair demand and firm at 95½@96c. Wheat—demand good at full prices; receipts 5,700 bush; old spring $1.28; new $1.29¾@1.30; red winter $1.40@1.42; white $1.45@1.50. Rye—an advance is asked but none established. Barley firm and in fair demand. Malt quiet. Corn firm and in fair demand; receipts 19,000 bush; No 1 mixed 80¼@81c; No 2 do 76¾@77c; yellow 77c. Oats quiet and unchanged in every respect; receipts 40,000 bush; sales at 39c@41c; sober western in store 38c. Leather firm at 23@25 for California. Wool steady; domestic 62@65c; pulled 58@62c; California 52@55c. Hay scarce and firm; $1.20 for shipping, $1.25 @1.35 for retail. Hops unchanged. Coffee steady, with a moderate demand; quoted at 24@24½c gold. Sugar dull; Cuba 8½@8¾c for fancy. Molasses: New Orleans 62@75c. Rice 7@7¾c. Petroleum: crude 12½@12¾c; refined 25c. Provisions steady. Mess pork $19.25@19.38, new $20, prime mess $14@14.50, new $20. Beef hams, smoked $22@23; prime mess $16@17. Beef: India mess $26@28. Cut meats dull; hams, plain 10¾@12c, shoulders 8@8½c, short rib middles 10½@11c, city long clear 11¾ @12c. Dressed hogs: western 8@8¼c. Lard firmer; good 11¾@12¾c, kettle dried 12¾@13c, December 13½c, January 12½c. Butter quiet and unsettled in every respect. Cheese: market steady and in moderate demand; 12@ 18½c.

Metals—Manufactured copper steady; ingot lake, 32¾@33c; cash; Scotch pig, $35@36. Iron: United States pig, $31@32. Bars dull at $75. Russia sheet, 10½@11c, gold. Nails $4.25@4.50; cash; clinch, 5¾@6c. Horse shoe, 2½@3c.

Latest—Flour in speculative demand, prices higher at $5.85@5.15 for shipping extra. Wheat in good demand, fair to prime firm; sales of new spring at $1.46@1.47; red amber, $1.46@1.47. Rye dull and prices nominal. Barley quiet and steady for western. Corn in speculative demand and prices higher; No 1 mixed, 77@78c; yellow, 77½c. Corn firmer at 80c; sellers option February, 39¾c. Oats quiet and baconstead and unchanged. Lard in fair demand and the market firm; lard buyers at 12¾c January, February and March, held at 12¾@13c; steam 12¾ unchanged.

Dry Goods.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—This being Christmas eve and termination week there has been but little business doing among wholesale houses, while retailers are doing a good business, the weather being cold and dry. In view of these circumstances there is but little alterations observed in the price of staple textiles. We quote Calico: A Wamsutta sheetings at 11½c; Augusta do 11½c; Dwight W 10c; Great Falls J, 9½c; do mont 12½c; Atlantic A 13½c; Lawrence LL 9½c; do D 9½c; Cabot 8½c; Shirting prints: Allen's heeling 12½@c; do for long 12½c per yard higher for same as for Amoskeag and Lancaster; Blue ticking: Pemberton E, 18c for gold medal; Conestoga XX, 18c; Amoskeag 17½c; Mondawmin 16½; Boot 16½; Hamilton 15½; Stark A, 15½; Shetucket 15c; do 10-4 do. 17½@18c. All dark prints held firmly at 9½@10c.

Cincinnati.

CINCINNATI, December 24.—The intense cold weather and commencement of the holidays have united to check trade and circumscribe orders. Cotton: Current 14½@14¾. Flour steady and in moderate demand; family $5.25@5.50. Wheat quiet and unchanged in every respect; sales at 90@92c. Corn quiet and unchanged in every respect. Oats quiet and unchanged in every respect; sales at 39c. Rye dull and nominal, no bids offered for lots on spring and $1.05 asked. Groceries unchanged. Linseed oil steady with a moderate demand at 68@68½c. Lard quiet and unchanged in every respect; sales at 9c. Butter scarce and unchanged; sales at 29@30. Cheese dull and unchanged. Cleveland poultry and difficult to give accurate quotations; dressed turkeys sold at 10c. Timothy seed steady and in moderate demand. Clover seed dull but holders firm at 7½c for prime. Whisky dull but holders firm at 91c for prime to choice bottle. Bulk Meats—full prices asked but no demand at 7½c, buyable for shoulders, clear rib and clear 9½@9¾c, buyable for clear rib and clear sides. Hogs in light demand and 5 cents lower; live $4.90@5.25; dressed $5.60@6.25. Receipts 3,200. Whisky steady and in moderate demand.

Toledo.

TOLEDO, December 24.—Flour quiet and unchanged in every respect. Wheat steady with a moderate demand; No 2 white Wabash $1.38; No 2 red winter $1.36; No 1 do $1.38; No 2 $1.36; rejected red $1.32. No 2 spring $1.32. Corn quiet and unchanged in every respect; low mixed 38; yellow 41. Oats steady with a moderate demand; No 1 white 36½; mixed 41. Clover seed steady with a moderate demand; sales at $6.62. Hogs steady with moderate demand; sales at $7.40@7.50, all weights.

St. Louis.

ST. LOUIS, December 24.—General market quiet and business small, in consequence of the suspension of navigation and the masses retained indoors, owing to the difficulty in getting to and from the stores. Flour in moderate demand and unchanged. Wheat—Receipts 7,000 bush; small order trade, at previous prices. Wheat—Buyers and sellers are apart; not enough business done to establish prices. Corn—Nominal at both depots. Oats—No. 2, 39½. Highwines firm at 90c. Provisions—Firmer feeling and small sales. Pork —Large order lots, ¼@¾c higher. Dry salt meats nominal. Hams—Sugar cured 17½c, decline; 80,000 bulk sides, clear ribs, at St. Joseph, 8¾c cash; 100,000, same place, 15c; for February 9¾c. Hogs inactive at $5.75@6.15. Cattle 3@4c.

Philadelphia.

PHILADELPHIA, December 24.—Flour steady and in moderate demand; extras $5.50; others unchanged. Wheat quiet and unchanged in every respect; Ohio and Indiana $1.43@1.45. Rye dull and unchanged. Corn; demand fair and market firm; yellow 74c; No. 2 mixed 73c. Oats; demand good at full prices, at 56@56c for State and western. Provisions dull; it is difficult to fix quotations. Petroleum; crude 16c; refined 22½c. Whisky steady and in moderate demand; held at 93c.

Cleveland.

CLEVELAND, December 24.—Flour dull, but unchanged. Wheat in fair demand; market firm; sales 2000, No. 1 Red winter $1.25; No. 2 do. $1.21. Corn firmer. Oats steady, with a moderate demand at 47c. Rye in fair demand; market firm; No. 1 80c; No. 2 85. Barley dull, and prices nominal, and held at 75@$1.10 at the outside, for very choice. Petroleum—crude very dull and nothing doing; prices nominal at $1.40; refined quiet and unchanged to every respect at 20@20½c.

Baltimore.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 24.—Flour, demand active and prices advanced on shipping grades; western family $6.50@7.50. Wheat quiet and unchanged in every respect; Ohio and Indiana $1.37. Corn, No. 1 white, active at 75c; yellow heavy, 72c. Oats, demand good and full prices, 52@54c. Rye, demand fair and market firmer, 88@90c. Provisions nominally unchanged. Whisky quiet, 93@94c.

Louisville.

LOUISVILLE, December 24.—Tobacco firm; sales of 28 hhds at $5.50. Bagging is very dull at 20¾@27c. Cotton firm; middling 14½c. Flour quiet; extra family $5.25. Grain is very dull. Provisions quiet and firm; mess pork $19.50. Lard 12c. Bulk shoulders 6½c. Bulk sides and clear rib 9¾c. Bulk sides and clear 10c. Bacon: shoulders 10¾c; do. clear rib 12¾c; do. clear 13c. Whisky quiet at 93c.

Memphis.

MEMPHIS, December 24.—Cotton; demand fair and market firm at 14¾@14¾c. Receipts of 5,900 bales. Shipments for the last 24 hours of 2,985 bales. Flour; demand fair and market firm at $5.00@6.70. Corn dull but unchanged. Oats scarce and firm. Hogs active but unchanged. Bran dull at 21c. Pork dull and prices have declined. Bulk shoulders 7½@7¾c. Bulk sides 9½@10¼c.

Live Stock.

ALBANY, 24.—Market for Beeves closed today fully ¼ cent per pound lower than last week; Christmas cattle weak and drooping on the market at 10c. per pound for good and extra. Sheep and Lambs commanded full prices; common to fair 6@5c; fair to good 5½@6c; Good to Extra 6@7¼c. and even 8 cent per pound.

Oswego.

OSWEGO, Dec. 24.—Flour steady with, moderate demand: No 1 spring $6.55; amber $7.00. Wheat quiet and unchanged in every respect; No 1 Milwaukee $1.35.

Milwaukee.

MILWAUKEE, December 24.—Flour dull and unchanged. Wheat. No. 2 firmer at $1.05¾. Rye: No. 2 42c. Corn; No. 2 mixed 47c. Dressed hogs unchanged.

Detroit.

DETROIT, December 24.—Wheat firm and unchanged. Dressed hogs active at $7.10. Seed firm; clover $7.25@7.30.

IMPORTS BY RAILROAD.

CLEVELAND AND PITTSBURGH RAILROAD COMPANY, December 24.—5 cars iron ore, Shoenberger, Blair & Co; 1 do do, W Watson & Bros; 1 do do, Byers, McCullough & Co; 1 do do, Union Iron Mills; 2 do do, Chess, Smith & Co; 2 cars pig iron, 1 car blooms, Nimick & Co; 1 bx mdse, J P Smith & Son; 10 csks p ash, Excelsior Glass Co; 1 bll bbl cider, A Steinmeze; 2 bbls pickles, C A Rowenstar; 10 pcs pents, J Brown; 10 bxs bll lard tables, H Bachman; 1 bx can fruit, A S Burk; 10 bbls peaches, J A Graff; 1 bbl butter, Rinehart & S; 1 cook stove, Wm Johnston; 10 d hogs, Atwell & Lee; 2 bxs butter, 2 kegs lard, M W Rankin; 1 bbl b berries, H R-a; 12 bdls iron, Lewis, Olliver & Phillips; 39 pcs castings, Craig & Bro; 3 bxs mdse, Park, Bro & Co; 2 bdls beams, Arbuckles & Co; 6 bdls rock, H Berger; 31 d hogs, J P Hanna & Co; 5 bbls oatmeal, Strickler & Morlege; 367 pigs lead, Bailey & Fairrell; 100 empty oil bbls, C A Wormcastle; 31 bbls oil, W Fiaccus & Son; 2 bxs poultry, P Duff & Son; 1 bx butter, 1 bx eggs, 2 bxs poultry, J Pettitt & Co; 3 bxs, 2 bbls, 1 bx nuts, Head & Metzgar; 180 sks s corn, Bricker & Co; 2 cars pig iron, Wm Smith; 2 do do, Reese, Graff & Dull.

PITTSBURGH FORT WAYNE AND CHICAGO RAILROAD COMPANY, December 24.—27 bbls beans, J A Graff; 10 bxs farina, 227 bxs cheese, Arbuckles & Co; 30 pails tobacco, R F Weddell; 5 bbls alcohol, Jno McCullough; 160 g hides, W Smith; 100 bbls d peaches, 50 bgs do, Voigt, Mahood & Co; 11 bales h corn, H R McClelland; 300 bbls flour, T C Jenkins & Bro; 40 bxs cheese, Segmyer & V, 200 bbls flour; F Sellers & Co, 100 tes lard, 50 do grease, John McKirdy & Co, 100 bbls apples; Dilworth, Harper & Co, 25 bbls cheese, J Braden, 7 bxs do; W J Meek, 75 bgs oats, 50 do rye; Phillips & M, 1 car hoops; A Kirkpatrick & Co, 45 bgs c seed; J P Hanna & Co, 94 dressed hogs; J Porterfield & Co, 8 doz brooms; Houck, Jameson & Co, 298 bgs m feed; Z Wainright, 200 bgs barley; John White, jr, 226 bgs barley, James McKay, 10 bbls whiskey; Strickler & M, 50 bxs starch, H Rea, J S Kaghard, 1 d hog; Kimball & Co, 6 d hogs; S Hare & Son, 39 bbls oil; B L Fahnestock & Co, 150 bbls ref oil.

PITTSBURGH, CINCINNATI & ST. LOUIS RAILROAD COMPANY, December 24.—3 bbls d apples, M W Rankin; 14 bxs mdse, Selwarth & H, 10 bbls lard, J D Sprigler & Co; 2 bbls d apples, W J Steel & Bro's, 1 car grain, P Duff & Son; 10 bbls lard oil, J H Parker; 30 tcs lard, J Dalzell & Son; 50 bbls bacon, F Sellars & Co; 12 bbls molasses, E Heazelton; 22 do do, S Ewart & Co; 1 car poultry, Pope & Eckert; 105 sks barley, McHenry & H; 19 sks oats, McNulty & L; 38 do e corn, Meanor & H; 193 sks barley, J Gangwich; 87 old axles, Pgh Forge & Iron & Co; 79 sks barley, Meanor & H; 19 d hogs, E Jackson.

ALLEGHENY STATION, December 24.—10 bbls hominy, Bedfield & Nicholson; 12 bxs cheese, A Ross; 1 car metal, Lindsay & McCutcheon; 23 sks rags, J Jones; 4 cars coopperage, J T Stone; 1 car lumber, John Nanz; 5 bbls oatmeal, 5 do a peas, Chris Heiss; 2 cars iron ore, Pgh Forge & Iron Co; 56 bgs flaxseed, Ewer, Hamilton & Co; 1 sack coffee, J Kohen; 45 sks oats, J Grabeny; 80 bgs oats, 29 do corn, R Knox & Son.

ALLEGHENY VALLEY RAILROAD, December 24.—1 car lumber, C Reiter; lot hides, 2 bbls tallow, Hammett & Son; 18 sks flour, E Heazleton; 1 car metal, W Smith; 4 pkgs poultry, Jacob Stein; 2 cars metal, McKnight & Co; 1 do do, Brown & Co; 1 do do, Moorhead; 1 do clay, Erskine & Co; 2 bxs poultry, Bruggerman & O'B; 3 bgs rags, McCullough, Smith & Co.

WEST PENNA. RAILROAD COMPANY, December 24.—4 sks rags, McElroy & Co; 3 d hogs, H Michael; 1 bale mdse, Jos Douthett & Co; 18 d hogs, Laing & Mc-Kalip; 101 sks oats, Elwood & Bro; 1 d hog, 1 sack meal, G Henderson; 80 bbls salt, J Kohen; 80 bdls sheet iron, Rogers & B.

RIVER NEWS.

The weather continues exceedingly cold and navigation is virtually suspended. Both the Allegheny and Monongahela rivers are frozen over, and it is more than likely that the Ohio river is also closed below, although we have no positive knowledge of such being the case. The thermometer was three degrees below zero, at the Allegheny Observatory on Saturday morning.

As navigation is suspended, as a matter of course, there are no arrivals or departures to report, and from present indications, it is not likely that there will be any for some time to come.

It is not a little singular how the report originated on Friday in regard to the sinking of the Mollie Moore, and as our down river exchanges have not a word to say about it, we are disposed to believe that there is no truth in it.

The Brill arrived at Cincinnati on Friday, and the Henry C. Yeager and Wauanita were at Cairo the same day.

The Warner and barges arrived at New Orleans on Friday, and the Silver Lake No. 3 left there the same day for the Ohio river.

A dispatch from Capt. John W. Cannon states that hopes of raising the R. E. Lee are entertained. She is lying in 7 feet water forward and 9 feet aft.

—We clip the following from the Cincinnati *Commercial* of Saturday: The new, large and powerful towboat John A. Wood, on her second trip from Pittsburgh with a tow of 14 barges, containing 160,000 bushels of coal, destined for the south, while descending the river yesterday morning, about seven o'clock, met with a serious accident, when about opposite California, Ohio. It appears that the ice made so rapidly and in such masses on her water wheel as to cause the weight aft to part her hog-chains, letting her wheel down. She was immediately headed for the bank, and made the Ohio shore with her tow, where she sunk, with 18 feet of water over her main deck astern, and her bow and barges out on shore. The towboats Keystone and Tom Rees, of Pittsburgh, were dispatched to her assistance, and may succeed in saving the coal and barges, if they do not succeed in raising the Wood. It is unfortunate that the Champion, with her submarine pumps, is working at the barge Red Stocking, on the falls, and that we are without tug boats with pumps. The tug Veteran is laid up repairing her boilers, and the Dick Fulton has gone to Kentucky River with a tow. The Keystone and Tom Rees can probably assist in holding up the Wood's wheel, and, perhaps, prevent her from breaking in two. As the river is full of heavy, keen ice, the coal barges are in danger of being cut down and sunk. The Wood cost $65,000, is provided with the Hartupee engines, and the boat and coal is owned by Horner, Wood & Co., of Pittsburgh. The towboat Coal Hill, with a tow of empty barges for Pittsburgh, broke her hog chains below Maysville, and returned here for repairs. The Horner has laid up at "Four Mills." The Webster arrived with a portion of her tow of model barges, laden with Porter's fire-brick, the balance of her tow having been laid up at Coal Haven, in a critical condition, owing to ice. The Tom Rees, when dispatched to the assistance of the Wood, had a tow of 14 empty coal barges for Pittsburgh, which she laid up in a safe harbor at Sedamsville.

—A dispatch from Capt. J. H. Lightner, under date of Friday, reports that the bell boat had arrived at Cairo from the Glendale, and that the prospects for raising her were favorable. It was hoped and expected that the Mississippi would close above the bridge at St. Louis on Friday night, and if so it would be all the better for the raising of the Glendale, as the river below St. Louis would in that event be clear at least of heavy ice.

—Capt. Nat. Green, of the low pressure steamer Richmond, seriously avers that from the time he left New Orleans until he arrived at Cairo with his boat an average of one steamer per minute was met, if further, that the vast amount of steam expended in signaling them, caused him to lose one day on the trip.

—The following tow boats arrived at Louisville on Thursday, with full tows of coal destined for the Southern markets, viz: Sam Clark, Mary Ann, Tom Reese, and A. J. Baker. The V. F. Wilson, Tigress, Diamond, John A. Wood, Stella, and Eagle were expected to arrive on Friday.

—The officers of the Ohio No. 4 report that three coal barges were on the shore opposite Harkelville, having the appearance of being run in head on, and that two other barges sunk below Big Sandy; also, one barge of the Michigan tow, blown ashore at Raccoon Island, had sunk.

—John Ferguson, who has been piloting for over thirty years, says that the Ocean is one of the easiest boats to handle that he was ever on. She is an excellent boat in every respect.

—The St. Charles succeeded in fighting her way through the ice and arrived about 9 o'clock Friday evening. To clerks Davis and Kirker we are indebted for a manifest.

—The following coal towboats passed by Cincinnati on Thursday: Diamond, Leopard, Tigress No. 2, Fearless, Leader, Kanawha No. 2, V. K. Wilson, and Eagle

—The Bellevernon passed Memphis on Thursday enroute for New Orleans, and the Great Republic left New Orleans the same day for Cairo.

—The Oil Valley attempted to go up the Mississippi from Cairo, but was unable to fight the ice and was obliged to turn back.

—Joseph Dickerson, a well known, Cincinnati and New Orleans pilot, died on Thursday at his residence in Cincinnati.

—The Granite State is laid up in the Muskingum at Marietta. She could not proceed any further with safety.

—The Mollie Moore was at Cairo on Tuesday. There she discharged a large amount of sugar and molasses.

—The R. R. Hudson, arrived at Gallipolis on Thursday with a broken shaft.

—The Gilmore, Dictator and Wild Duck have laid up at Grand Tower.

RIVER PACKETS.

U. S. MAIL LINE.

Pittsburgh, Brownsville and Geneva Packet Company.

LEAVES DAILY AT 8 A. M., 4:30 P. M.

FOR ALL POINTS ON THE MONONGAHELA RIVER.

STEAMER ELECTOR....Capt. DOYLE BOUGHER.
STEAMER CHIEFTAIN....Capt. ROBT. PHILLIPS.
STEAMER E. BENNETT....Capt. Z. W. CARMACK.

For further particulars inquire on Wharfboat, foot of Smithfield street, Pittsburgh.

No freight will be received after 5¼ o'clock.

A. S. CARLISLE, Agent.

PORTSMOUTH PACKET.

FOR WHEELING, MARIETTA, PARKERSBURG, IRONTON AND PORTSMOUTH.

Leaves Pittsburgh EVERY FRIDAY, at 4 P. M.
Leaves Portsm

SEVERE FIGHTING!

Chanzy Defeated!

IN FULL RETREAT!

Gen. Faidherbe Surrounded!

CHERBOURG IMPREGNABLE!

The Riot at Lyons!

HORRIBLE PROCEEDINGS!

General Carrond Shot!

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

THE WAR.

ANOTHER SORTIE.

BERLIN, December 23.—Queen Augusta has just made public the following dispatch from King William, dated Versailles:

The French made a sortie in the direction of Staines and Bourgt, prompted by a mistaken idea that the French army of relief was approaching. Many French prisoners were taken in an assault on the Saxon position. The sortie was easily repulsed.

The cold is intense.

TO BE INVITED.

A London telegraph says that in the event of an appeal by Prussia to the European Courts for the arbitration of the Luxembourg affair, the Government of Great Britain will be invited to undertake it.

BREAKING THEIR PAROLE.

BERLIN, December 23.—Count Bismarck has addressed a circular note to the representatives of the North German Confederation at foreign courts, which calls their attention to the fact that French officers are breaking their parole not to serve in the army during the present war, and saying that as the French Government sanctions this proceeding, peremptory measures must be taken to check it.

Count Bismarck adds that in the event of future complaints of the kind being received, proper judgment can be passed upon offenders at the Prussian headquarters.

SURROUNDED.

LONDON, December 23.—A dispatch from Brussels says that General Faidherbe is being surrounded by the Germans, and that the Prussians have occupied Soissons, Sissone.

It is said that the commune of Lyons has sent an address to the French Government, insisting upon more power to order decrees and proclamations, and more boldness and energy.

ITALY.

ON TO ROME.

FLORENCE, December 24.—In Parliament yesterday, Signor Arrezuina urged the immediate removal of the Capitol to Rome. Signor Foscanelli, argued against the proposition.

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The state Largely Democratic—Also the Legislature.

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AUGUSTA, December 24.—Sufficient returns from all sections of the State have been received to show that the State has gone largely Democratic, and it is tolerably certain that the following Democrats have been elected to Congress.

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[By P. & A. Telegraph.]

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PEACE CONFERENCE.

LONDON, December 23.—The reports are that the French government has requested the English government to obtain egress from Paris for their plenipotentiary to the approaching conference.

A COLLISION.

LONDON, Dec. 23.—The brigantine Fearless, Captain Davidson commander, from Wilmington, N. C., via New York, for London, had a collision with the Corona, forty miles off Beachy Head. The Fearless was so badly damaged that she was abandoned by the crew in a sinking condition.

LONDON, December 23.—The first meeting of the Conference on the Eastern question is fixed for the third of January.

Prince Charles of Roumania, calls the attention of the powers to the fact that his position as settled by the treaty of Paris is no longer tenable.

The Empress Eugenie is organizing a fund for the French prisoners. She is negotiating for the use of Drury Lane Theatre for benefit performances.

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NEW YORK CITY.

Don't Want to be Annexed—The Crispins Determined to hold Out—A Fire—Failure of a Billiard Match.

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

NEW YORK, December 25, 1870.

A large meeting of prominent citizens of West Farms, West Chester, Yonkers and other lower towns of Westchester county, held at Fordham yesterday to protest against the proposed annexation of the lower part of Westchester to this city. The proposed new city would contain 75,000 inhabitants, and twice the area of New York.

Wm. M. Tweed has again given fifty thousand dollars, and Sheriff O'Brien a thousand tons of coal for the relief of the poor in their respective wards.

Ten hundred and fifty Crispin strikers received money for another week's support from the Society fund last night. They say that they are determined to hold out and are receiving four hundred dollars weekly from other cities.

The residence of R. W. Cameron, the well known stock breeder and importer on Staten Island, was burned last night night; loss $100,000.

The loss by the burning of the Rutherford Park Hotel, N. J., Saturday, is $110,000.

The Dion-Rudolph billiard match for $2,000 will probably fail, in consecuence of a disagreement as to a stakeholder.

The number of immigrants last week was 2,684.

RICHMOND.

The Spottswood Hotel Destroyed by Fire—Great Loss of Life—Scenes of Horror—A Narrow Escape—Singular Coolness.

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

RICHMOND, VA., December 24.—At a quarter past two o'clock this morning, as a porter had commenced waking passengers for the Southern train in the Spottswood Hotel, he discovered fire in the lower floor. An effort was immediately made to wake the guests, and the scene became indiscribable.

Men were rushing about trying to save their baggage, and women nearly naked and barefooted, fleeing into the snow covered streets. The steam engines were promptly on hand, but the water failed them. It was some time before water could be thrown on the building. In twenty minutes time the flames spread to such an extent that the escape by the staircase was cut off. The guests then commenced leaping from the windows. P. F. Clark, of Philadelphia, steward in the hotel, leaped from the third story without receiving fatal injury.

The most fearful scene of the disaster was the appearance of Mrs. Emily Cornelius, of Baltimore, house keeper, at the window of fifth story were where one or two other ladies screaming for help. The fire companies ladders were put up, but failed by two stories to reach the window. While the firemen were endeavoring to lengthen the ladders, the crying women disappeared in thick smoke and were lost, the room brightening up a moment after with flames.

Up to noon to-day the only persons burned whose names are known, are Erasmus Ross, clerk at Libby Prison during the war. Mrs. Emily Cornelius, housekeeper, Samuel W. Robinson, clerk with Enker & Bro., and Sam. Hines, clerk with Milheson & Co. The Register hotel was consumed, and it is impossible to give the names of strangers that may be lost. Several are believed to have perished, as there are about a dozen unclaimed trunks of persons from New York and other Northern cities. Then with great was so cold that the telegraph wires in front of the burning building were covered with ice, and the fire steamers were encased in ice an inch thick.

Among the remarkable escapes was that of C. S. Hefter, attached to the office of the State Printer, who was in the fourth story and escaped by dropping from window cornice to window cornice until he reached the ground. He was badly burned, however.

The correspondent and reporter for the *Herald* had a narrow escape. The guests lost all their clothing, and the ladies had to walk barefoot over the snow.

The total loss is $300,000. The insurance is mostly by northern companies. Among the business houses that were destroyed was Branch & Currant's crockery store. Adams Express Company and other small stores. The following are the additional names of persons who are known to be burned to death: H. A. Thomas, Agent of the Panorama of Pilgrim's Progress; W. H. Pace, Danville, Virginia. United States Mail Agent, and J. B. Surfes, Messenger for Southern Express Company. The Spottswood Hotel was valued at $140,000, and is insured in Northern companies. Subtell, Luck & Co., proprietors of the Spottswood, had their furniture insured for $20,000, and their wines and carpets for $7,000, in the North British Company. All goods ready for delivery in the cellar of the Southern Express Company were destroyed. The companies money safes are buried in the ruins.

An incident of the fire was the appearance of a man at one of the upper windows, who sat tearing paper into small pieces and throwing them out of the window till he fell back into the flames. Among those who had very narrow escapes were M. Miel'efert, New York, engineer J. Reven, corps of obstructions; S. A. Pearce, Columbia, S. C.; Private Secretary of Senator Sprague, Mrs. Emagill, proprietor of the Theatre. The Deleve troupe lose their baggage. The hotel register was found to-night and only six strangers are not found. It is probable some citizens have taken some to their houses.

The name of the housekeeper burned was Mrs. Emily Kennearly. Following are the names of missing strangers: J. H. Wileox, of Lynchburg; N. B emstein, of Washington; A. Leil, of Tampa, Florida; Geo. and E. H. Andrewe, of Syracuse, N. Y.; H. G. Crain, of New York, and John H. Holmes, of Jackson, Tenn.

Pork Packing.

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

ST. LOUIS, December 24.—The Secretary of the Merchants' Exchange has issued the following statistics of hog packing in the West: St. Louis, 151,934 lbs; same time last year, 179,858 lbs; Chicago, 35,794 lbs; last year, 37,856 lbs; Cincinnati, 208,454 lbs; last year, 275,300 lbs; Louisville, 219,274 lbs; last year, 179 000 lbs; Milwaukee, 79,000 lbs; last year, 85,000; Indianapolis, 65,604 lbs; last year, 11,000 lbs; Burlington, 1,000 lbs; Galena, 15,378 lbs; Springfield, Ill., 5,126 lbs. Hogs packed here averaged 264 lbs; last year, 240 lbs.

Not a Candidate.

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

SALT LAKE, December 24.—The name of Chief Justice McKean is used at Washington in connection with the governorship here, but without his authority. He is not, and it is authoritatively stated will not be a candidate.

METEOROLOGICAL RECORD.

Observations Made by the Storm Signal Service of the United States Army.

Pittsburgh, Dec. 23, 1870.

	A. M.	P. M.	P. M.
	7:23	4:31	11:32
Height of Barometer	30.17	30.50	30.34
Change since last report	.06	.27	.16
Thermometer	4°	15°	20°
Change in last 24 hours	0°	6°	14°
Direction of Wind	S W		W
Velocity of wind—miles per hour			
Pressure of wind—pounds per square foot.			
Force of wind reduced to Beaufort's scale—approx.	C	C	B
Amount of cloud	¾	¾	¾
Rain-fall since last report—inches and hundredths	0.00	0.00	0.10
State of weather	2	2	5

NOTES—In the telegraphic reports, only the variations of the Barometer since the last Reports are given; decimals being omitted in it and throughout the table by the minus sign.

Character of the winds, to save space, is indicated by letters of the alphabet, as follows: A, just perceptible; B, gently brisk; C, pleasant brisk; D, very brisk; E, high wind; F, very high wind; G, strong gale; H, violent gale; I, hurricane; J, most violent hurricane.

State of the weather is expressed by figures from 1 to 6: 1 being clear, no cloud; 2, fair, ¼ to ½ cloudy; 3, cloudy, ½ to wholly covered; 4, light rain; 5, heavy rain; 6, snow.

The barometer is corrected for temperature, elevation and instrumental error.

JAS. WEST, Observer.

Burning of a Palace Car on the Pittsburgh Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroad. No One Injured.

On Saturday morning about one o'clock, a serious, but not fatal accident, occurred on the Pittsburgh Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroad to the eastern bound train, about eighty miles this side of Chicago. As train No. 4 due here at five o'clock on Saturday evening had reached a point about midway between Plymouth and Bourbon stations, the roof of palace car No. 85 was discovered to be on fire. The train was immediately stopped and all the passengers with their effects were gotten out of the car. Through the energetic exertions of the train officers no injuries resulted to life or limb. Two young ladies on their way to New York lost their baggage and trinkets; and some of the passengers met with slight losses.

The exertions of the officers however, assisted as they were by some of the passengers were not sufficient to save the car which was totally destroyed. It was one of the "rotunda" pattern, had just been painted and shone where it had undergone thorough repairs and was but two years old. It is supposed the fire originated in the wood stove which had been overheated while the train stopped at Plymouth. We were unable to ascertain the amount of the loss.

A Revenue Case

In July, 1869, the distillery of George F. Stickenger, in this city, was seized by the United States Officials for violation of the revenue laws—selling without stamps on beer barrells. The defendant was subsequently convicted of all the charges at the September term of the United States court last year, and the decree of forfeiture of the distillery was duely issued. The act of Congress allows, in such cases, the moiety of the fine of five hundred dollars to the first informer. In this case there are three claimants to the fund in court, namely. Louis Rauch, a Government official who connived at the fraud with Collector Davis, and Christopher and Jacob Woll, brothers, the parties to whom the unstamped beer of Stickenger had been delivered, and who claimed the fund by reason of having sent for Rauch, the other claimant, and established him the unstamped beer. Commissioner Gamble submitted the testimony to the Court, and after arguments by Charles F. McKenna, attorney for the Woll brothers, and District Attorney Swope, who appeared for Rauch. His Honor Judge McCandless took charge of the papers and announced that a decision would be given at an early day.

A Row in the Sixth Ward, Allegheny Man Seriously Injured with a Handy Billy.

Yesterday afternoon Christ Knoeder and William Gass got into a wordy—He might say fussy—dispute in the Sixth ward, Allegheny. Words however not proving sufficiently strong to express the fulness of their anger at each other they proceeded to blows, when William drew a handy-billy and bashered Knoeder to such an extent that he had to be carried home and call in a physician to dress his wounds. Joseph A. Giogie a friend of the injured man, appeared before Alderman Collier and made an information charging Gass with felonious assault and battery. Warrant issued.

HOME NEWS.

NO PAPER TO-MORROW.

In order to afford all persons connected with the GAZETTE an opportunity to properly enjoy the Christmas holiday, there will be no paper issued from this office to-morrow.

New Year's—next.

Keep on good fires.

Kellogg this week.

Chinese at Library Hall.

Mayor Callow waxes fat.

Save a Little for New Years.

Fashionable.—Steel earrings.

Car Conductors are blue. Cold.

Sunday School "treats" all the go.

Christmas Come Christmas going.

Little French hats much in Fashion.

Now is the time for velvets and feathers.

The jolliest week of all the year is upon us.

School Exhibitions are numerous this season.

Swoope is after the liquor dealers, officially.

Steamboating has received a check for the winter.

Black Cashmere shawls are popular this winter.

All our exchanges note the arrival of Christmas.—Queer.

South Pittsburgh Council will meet to-morrow night.

The Allegheny river opposite the city, is frozen over.

No water on the streets or sidewalks. Very dry and hard.

Booksellers are highly gratified with their Holiday trade.

All the public schools have closed for the holiday vacations.

New Street car line up Spring Garden, Allegheny, is talked of.

Make a note of the changes in the time tables of the railroad.

The Pittsburgh Postoffice will be open today from 9 to 10½ A. M.

The walking costume, latest agony, is headed in flounces with fur.

Amusements, For Sales, Wants, &c., will be found on our third page.

Fine skating—"Go it while you are young for when you are old, etc."

Thermometer three degrees below zero, seven o'clock Saturday morning.

Congress Street is a sheet of ice just now and a dangerous place for teams.

The exhibition at the Western University Friday night, was an eminent success.

Spanish boods, for wearing to and from operas, are the latest winter novelties.

Navigation on the Ohio is practically suspended owing to the heavy floating ice.

The Fifth Ward School House, Allegheny, is to be enclosed with an iron railing fence.

There were thirty-three common cases before the Mayor yesterday morning.

D. B. B. Smith will be a candidate for visiting physician to the City Farm, Allegheny, for 1871.

Pat Murphy still lingers at the Work House, preferring that place to the cinder beds for a home.

The wooden sheeting over the steps at the Court House is appreciated by pedestrians that way.

Cockpit on Troy Hill, Allegheny, troubling the people in the neighborhood. Scenes every Friday night.

Remember—The GAZETTE is delivered at your door for fifteen cents per week, payable to the carrier.

Work has been suspended on the Soldiers Monument on Seminary Hill, on account of the cold weather.

John Trempera went to jail for thirty days for abusing his wife, Mayor Brush furnishing the pass to Claremont.

The German Savings Bank on the southside promises to be a success. Over $80,000 have already been subscribed.

The Grand Jury visited the jail on Friday and found Warden Scandrett and his boarders, male and female, all well.

Some one threatens the Second Ward, Allegheny, Alderman with a Christmas present, in the shape of a necktie, for variety.

Col. Jay. J. Brooke of Philadelphia, one of the best U. S. Detectives in the country, is at present in our city on official business.

The new Odd Fellows' Hall in Birmingham will be dedicated this afternoon. It will be a gala day among the fraternity hereabouts.

A facetious Pleasant Valley line conductor caused a roar of laughter by announcing jocosinatingly, "Broadway" for Gay alley, Allegheny.

Allegheny Poor Directors, and the Committee of Councils on poor farm visited the City Home on Saturday and found everything in usual good order.

Councils talk of cutting Fifth avenue down ten feet, where it crosses Grant, and extending the Belgian pavement to East Liberty. A grand improvement.

"Pat Maloy" was arrested Saturday morning by officer Moorhead for stealing a pair of boots from Patterson's livery stable. He was committed for a hearing.

A very valuable horse fell on the ice, at the corner of Grant and High street on Saturady evening, and broke his leg. His owner had him shot and taken to the river.

Samuel Herron Saturday morning, paid Mayor Brush $25 for six little fun—Indian war whoops. Clair street Suspension Bridge the evening previous.

Noah Curtis, a Pittsburger, was killed on Thursday afternoon at Bellaire by the falling of the trestle of the new bridge being built at that point, and upon which he was working.

Wm. Gibson and Catherine Freeman were before Alderman Humbert Saturday afternoon, for forestalling the market. They were held to bail in the sum of five dollars and costs.

The Board of Poor Directors of Allegheny, as at present constituted, paid their last visit to the Poor Farm Friday afternoon. No new developments.

Clatter, Clatter.—Why is it that the Pleasant Valley car conductors are the only ones whereby conversation between the passengers can scarcely be heard? This should be remedied.

Mr. Frank Smith, Roadmaster of the Connellsville Railroad, reports the track and interior condition from Pittsburgh to Connellsville. The road has been thoroughly overhauled.

A passenger too well filled with whisky, became disorderly on one of the Birmingham street cars, Saturday afternoon and had to be handed over to Capt. Orton at the lockup. His conduct cost him five dollars.

A Smashup occurred on the Pennsylvania Railroad at Rodebaugh's Station near Greensburg, Friday afternoon, caused by a broken rail. Three of the Adams Express cars were thrown from the track and badly wrecked. No person hurt.

A Still exploded on Friday night at the refinery of Mr. Arnold Herz, at Fairview, nine miles on the Allegheny river canal, by which it resulted in the de-truction of oil and property valued at $3,000, upon which there was no insurance.

Slight Fire.—A slight fire occurred Saturday morning at the wagon shop of F. J. Munden, located on North alley, off Federal street, Allegheny. The fire originated in the roof from a defective flue, but was extinguished before material dmmage had resulted.

Christmas, yesterday, was a bright wintry day, and brought out large numbers of people who crowded the streets. The churches were all well attended, especially the Cathedral, where the services were of an unusually interesting character, and attracted many Protestants.

A new Temple of True Templars is to be instituted in the hall over Leggate's auction store, Federal street, Allegheny, which will be known as Mount Horeb. The Grand Worthy Scribe, Brother Donald Semple, the Grand Templar of the State, will conduct the ceremonies, and will be assisted by the district deputies.

At a recent meeting of Stuckrath Lodge, No. 430, A. Y. M., the following officers were elected during the Masonic year: David Harris, W. M.; George Tomlinson, S. W.; T. H. McBride, J. W.; James P. Long, Secretary; John H. Dallas, Treasurer; Wm. Stewart, John McGraw and James McIntyre, Trustees.

A Good Appointment.—By reference to the proceedings of the Republican caucus, it will be seen that Mr. James Bonebrake, a well known citizen of the Seventh ward, and a prominent worker in politics, has been selected as one of the candidates for Legislative election which is every way well deserved, and in all respects creditable to the discernment of our delegation.

How it Was.—Charles Decken has lost confidence to a great extent in human nature. He had been paid off Saturday at the Connellsville Railroad office, and went into a saloon on Smithfield street with the check for $57 in his hand to inquire for the bank upon which it was drawn. A young man in the saloon offered to show him the way. The two started out. By some means the stranger got the check in his hands and then "skipped." Charles pursued him but it was in vain. The police are looking for the stranger.

Obstructing a Revenue Agent.—A man named R. M. Wilson was before U. S. Commissioner Gamble Saturday morning, charged with obstructing a duly authorized Revenue Officer. It appears that the accused is a Government Storekeeper at a distillery in Clarion county, Pa., and his commission had been revoked and Alex. Brown appointed in his stead. Upon assuming the office it is alleged that Wilson refused to give up the keys of the office, thus obstructing him as a revenue officer. He gave bail and was released.

Captain Rounds has the credit of building the oddest shaped river crafts that float, and he deserves it. His last huge steamer has been christened by the southern papers by the following, among other titles, "Noah's Ark," "Cargo Box," "Shakel Battery," "Gun Boat," "Dry Goods Box," "Covered Tub," "Hippodrome," etc. What's the odds, so as she can run and make money. "A rose by any other name will smell as sweet," so will the "Yeager."

The Ironsides is ice-bound at Wellsburg, and the Carrie Brooks at or near Bellair.

Church Almanac.

J. W. Pittock sends us copy of the *Church Almanac* for 1871, filled with information useful to church people, and not to be found elsewhere.

Christmas at Holtzheimer's to-day in old-fashioned style. Drop in and take your dinner there.

STIR AMONG BANKERS.

A Legal Notification—And What Came of it—A Contingent Fund Reduced.

The other day the genial Directors of the Dollar Savings Bank, a well known and staunch institution in our city, were serenely enjoying themselves in the contemplation of a balance sheet, which exhibited an handsome amount in favor of the institution, when their reveries were suddenly and cruelly interrupted by a messenger, who bore a mysterious document in his hand, which seemed to exhale, if such a thing be possible, a legal fragrance. Tremblingly the missive was opened, when their worst fears were realized; it proved to be a paper from the U. S. District Attorney, in which the bank officials were politely requested to step up and settle a little tax of five per cent. upon their carriages of contingent funds, or whatever else it might be called; failure to respond as requested, it was stated, would invite them in legal difficulties.

To fairly understand the matter, it should be known that the Bank differs from other savings institutions, in that it has no stockholders. The funds are in the hands of a Board of Directors, who conduct the affairs for the benefit of the depositors. This Directory was incorporated by the Legislature, and has the power to fill all vacancies which may occur in itself by resignation or death of any of its members. The Bank thus organized has no capital stock; money is received in deposit on time, simply, and interest allowed. The profits therefrom are supposed to be divided among the depositors. Thus it is in a sense not a stock company, and not a dividend paying concern, hence, the officers claimed that they were not required to pay the regular Bank tax especially as they declared no dividends. This claim, it may be said, is a new, as many institutions of the kind in the State have made it, and accordingly been exempted. The Directors, therefore, in a body, called the attention of their fellow officers to the matter, and then came the sweetest feature of the programme, the distribution of the candies, which were contained in neat boxes, one of which was bestowed upon each scholar and teacher.

The children then in concert repeated the Lord's Prayer while standing, and the "Gloria Patria," followed with the benediction, by the Rev. Mr. Wenzel, closed the hour. The exercises throughout were unusually spirited, and the most attentive order was maintained, even among the little folks, until the close, which speaks well of the disciplinary powers of the Superintendent Mr. T. H. Lane. The vocal exercises were conducted by Mr. Young. Miss Kate Nutting presiding at the organ. The occasion was one of the most harmonious and happy character, and was alike enjoyed by scholars and visitors, none of whom will soon away without renewed ties of affection for their school, and for its joyous Christmas